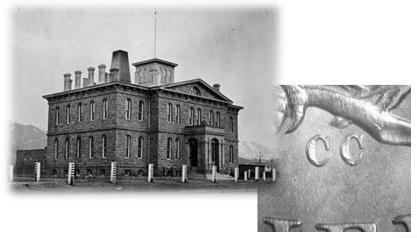
## Liberty Seated Half Dollar Die Marriage Diagrams

**Volume I: The Branch Mints** 







Drawn and Compiled by Bill Bugert

# Liberty Seated Half Dollar Die Marriage Diagrams Volume I: The Branch Mints

## Drawn and Compiled by Bill Bugert

**Published April 2014** 

Gettysburg, PA

**Introduction and purpose.** The purpose of this booklet is to compile the hand drawn die diagrams for the Liberty Seated half dollar Branch Mint die marriages. These diagrams match the descriptions and photographs of the die marriages as listed in the following four books by Bill Bugert:

- A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2009.
- A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume II, Carson City Branch Mint. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2010.
- A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume III, New Orleans Branch Mint, 1840-O to 1853-O NA. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2011.
- A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume IV, New Orleans Branch Mint, 1853-O WA to 1861-O. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2013.

This booklet does not replace the above four books. It merely documents one of the steps in the process of writing those books. In short, these diagrams were drawn as a summary of the die diagnostics and quick reference for all the die marriages.

**Background.** Starting decades ago in the mid-1980s, Randy Wiley and I toiled numerous hours together hand drawing die diagnostics for Liberty Seated half dollars varieties from our collections. These drawing were on blank notepads with a two adjacent columns for side by side mated observe and reverse dies. Looking ahead, Randy developed a new template, which is the basis for the hand drawings included herein, by taking blank obverse and reverse die drawings, matching four die pairs per page, and producing many blank copies. On these blanks, he and I would hand draw die diagnostics (such as die cracks, die lines, date and mintmark positions, and other die defects) as a quick, accurate, and ready reference for identifying individual dies. These diagrams quickly became very handy at coin shows for reference in determining new die marriages. As more die marriages were discovered, they were added and the emission sequence was continually updated. These templates replaced the notepad die diagnostic hand drawings. He and I drew and shared these drawings over the years as new die marriages were discovered.

"Half Dollar Summits." I am eternally grateful to Randy Wiley and Dick Osburn for sharing their knowledge, lending me their half dollars, and offering their expertise to my book writing efforts. These books would not have been successful without them.

Prior to each book, I invited Randy Wiley, Dick Osburn, and John Murison to attend a Half Dollar Summit at my home in Gettysburg, PA. A few other numismatists visited briefly including a "mysterious, prominent numismatist" who brought his massive collection of rarities to the 2012 Summit for a show and tell. To each Summit, everyone brought their collections of Liberty Seated half dollars that were to be presented in the upcoming Volume. In some

instances, we had over 1,500 Liberty Seated half dollars on site for the summit. We all spent 4-5 long days of marathon die variety and die state scrutiny, which culminated in the final die sequencing for all the die marriages and the final die diagrams.

The following are images of the primary attendees (Randy Wiley, Dick Osburn, John Murison, and Bill Bugert) at the Liberty Seated Half Dollar Summits:



**Drawing Legend.** The legend and abbreviations used in the die diagrams are somewhat standard although some slight inconsistencies may be found (depending on when the diagrams were drawn). The example shown on the next page depicts some usual annotations used throughout.

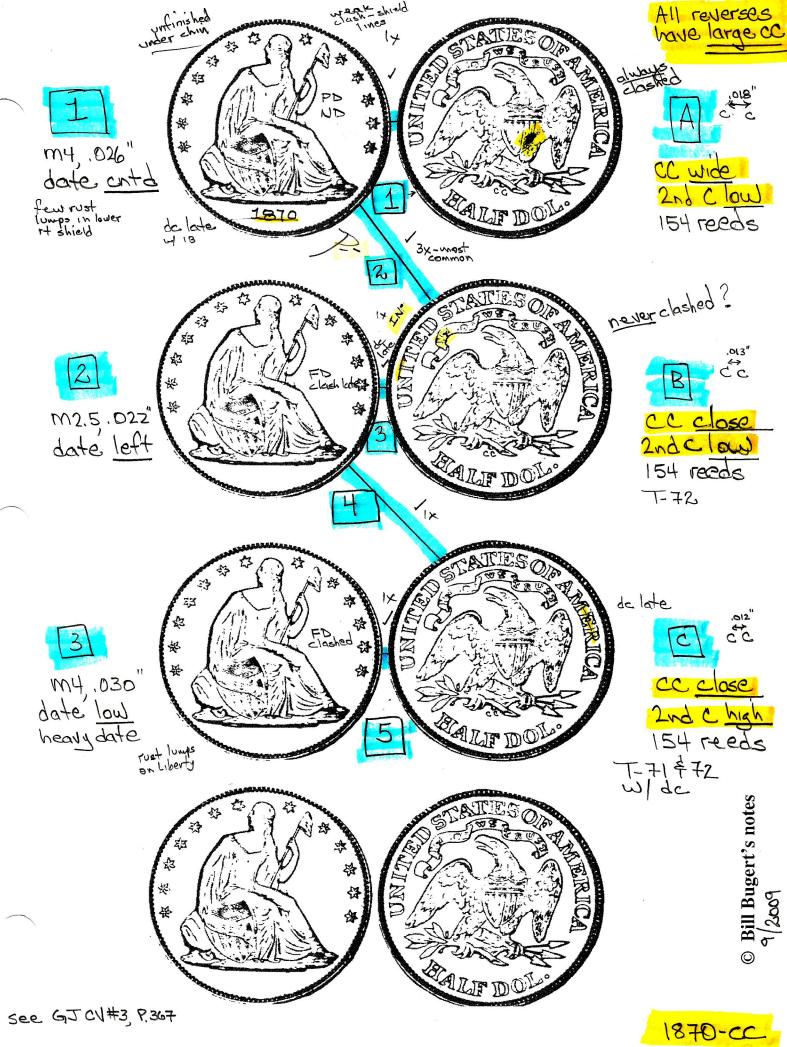


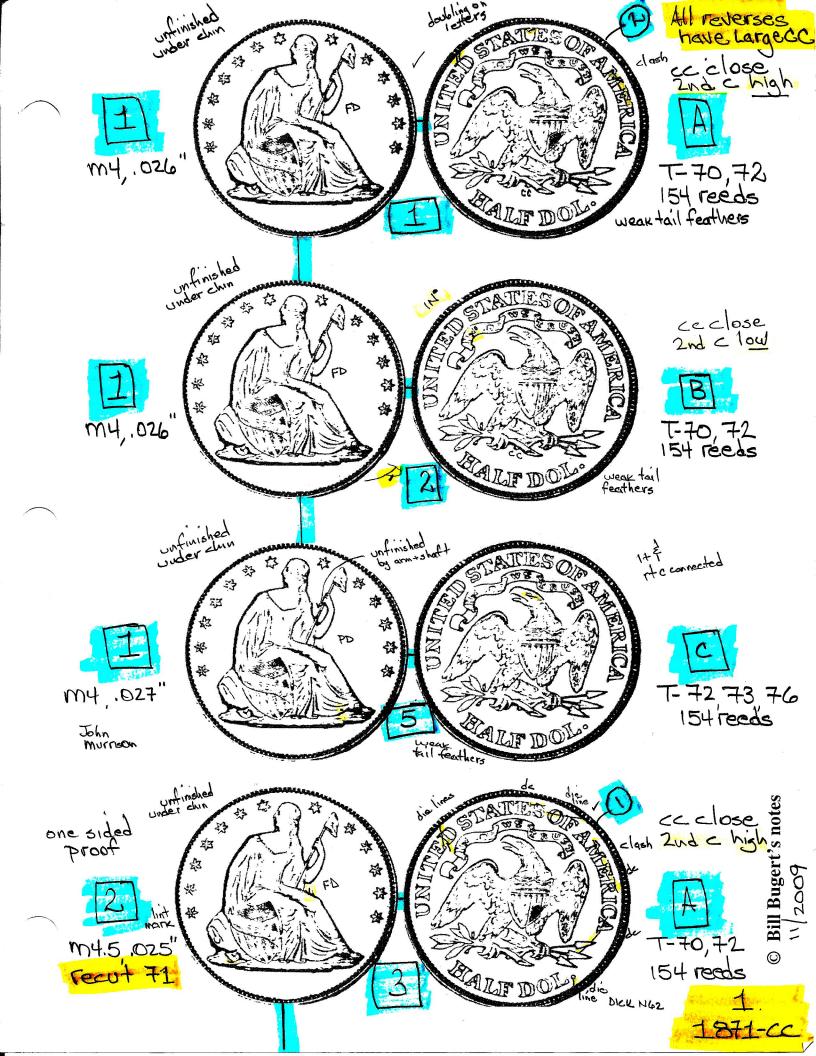
## Legend. Note the following in this example (1876-CC, die pair 26Z, die marriage WB-36):

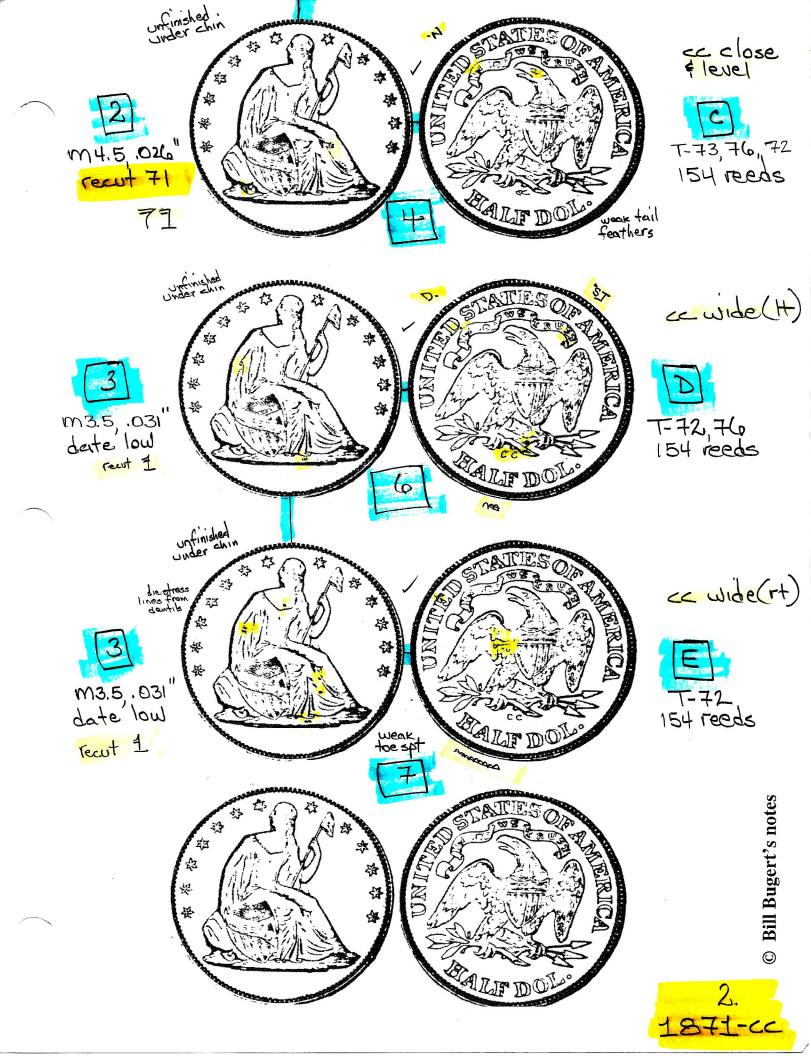
- Yellow highlights are die characteristics or something noteworthy of significance.
- Boxed and blue highlighted at left = obverse die designation (here it is "26").
- Boxed and blue highlighted at right = reverse die designation (here it is "Z").
- Boxed and blue highlighted above or below the die pair = WB die marriage (here it is "36").
- Highlighted lines are die cracks unless annotated as a die line. In some instances, the die crack may be further identified as "dc" and may list a die state.
- Reeds counts for that die pair are listed at the right.
- Obverse date position is listed at the left.
- Blue lines outside the die indicate linkage to another die / die state.
- Other notes are shown around the die diagram.

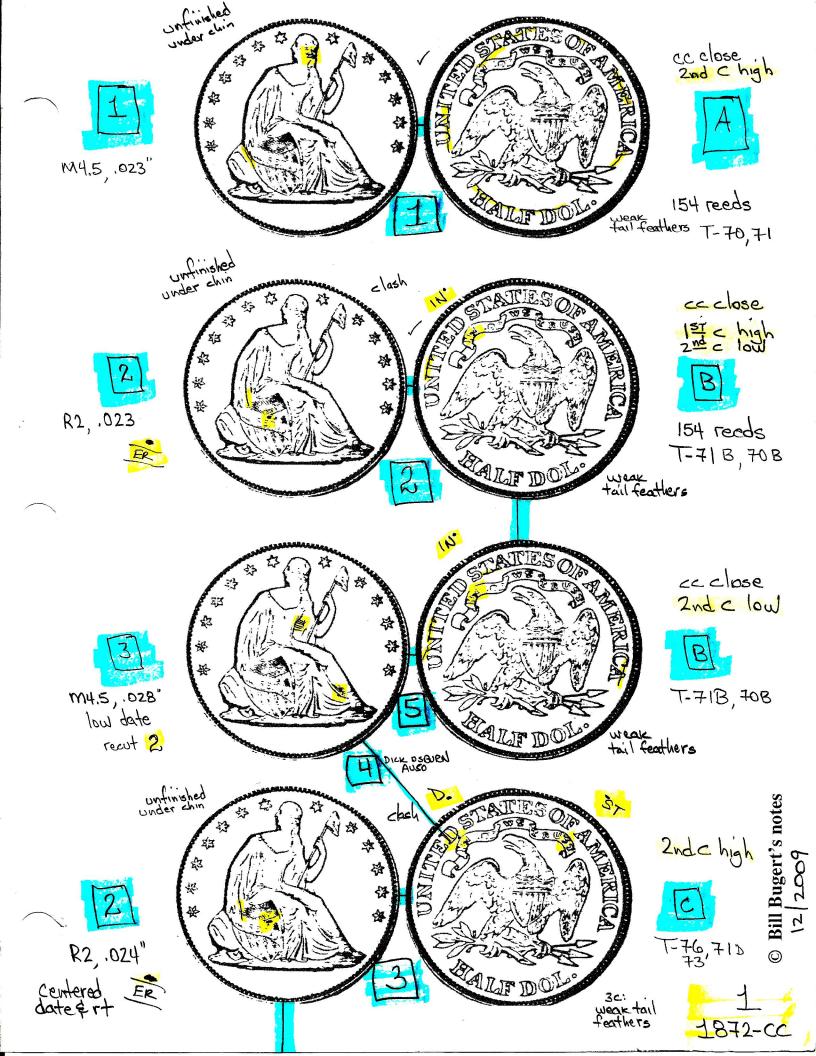
### **Abbreviations used:**

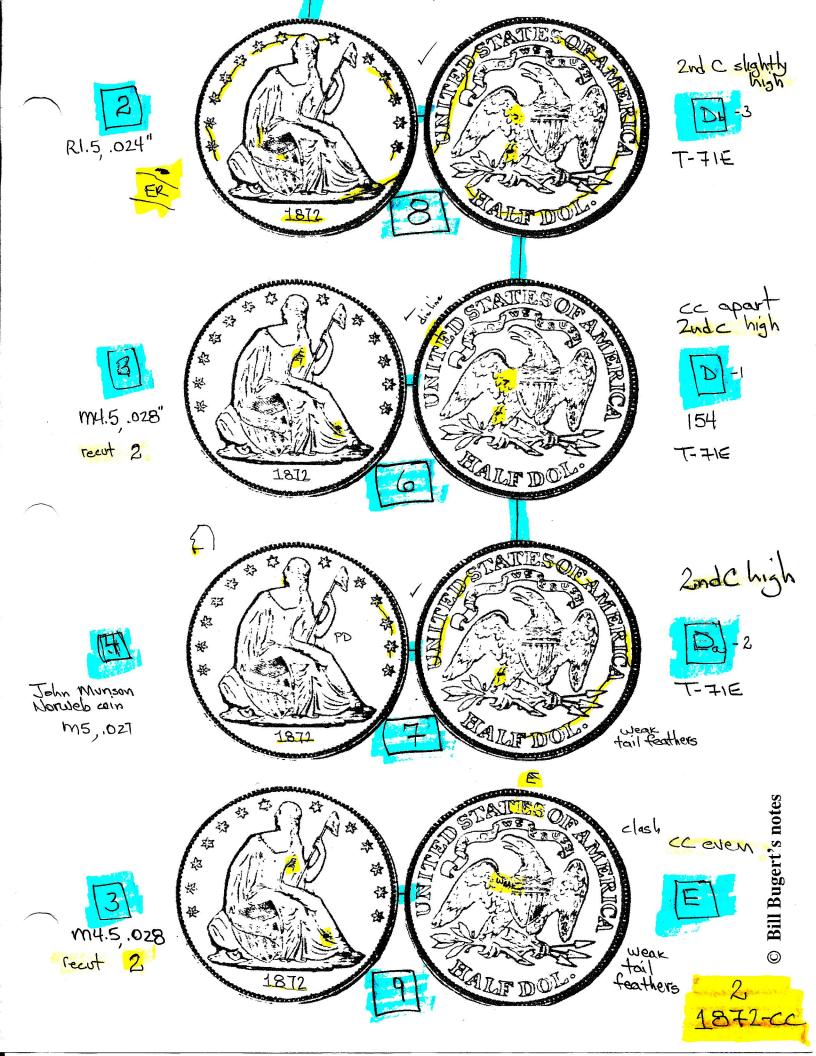
- P/L = proof-like
- dc = die crack
- dl = die line
- PD = partial drapery
- FD = full drapery
- VLDS = very ; late die state
- LDS = late die state
- EDS = early die state
- MDS = middle die state
- "old X" = indication of the previous nomenclature for this die or die pair
- "T-18XX" = this die is transition with XX.

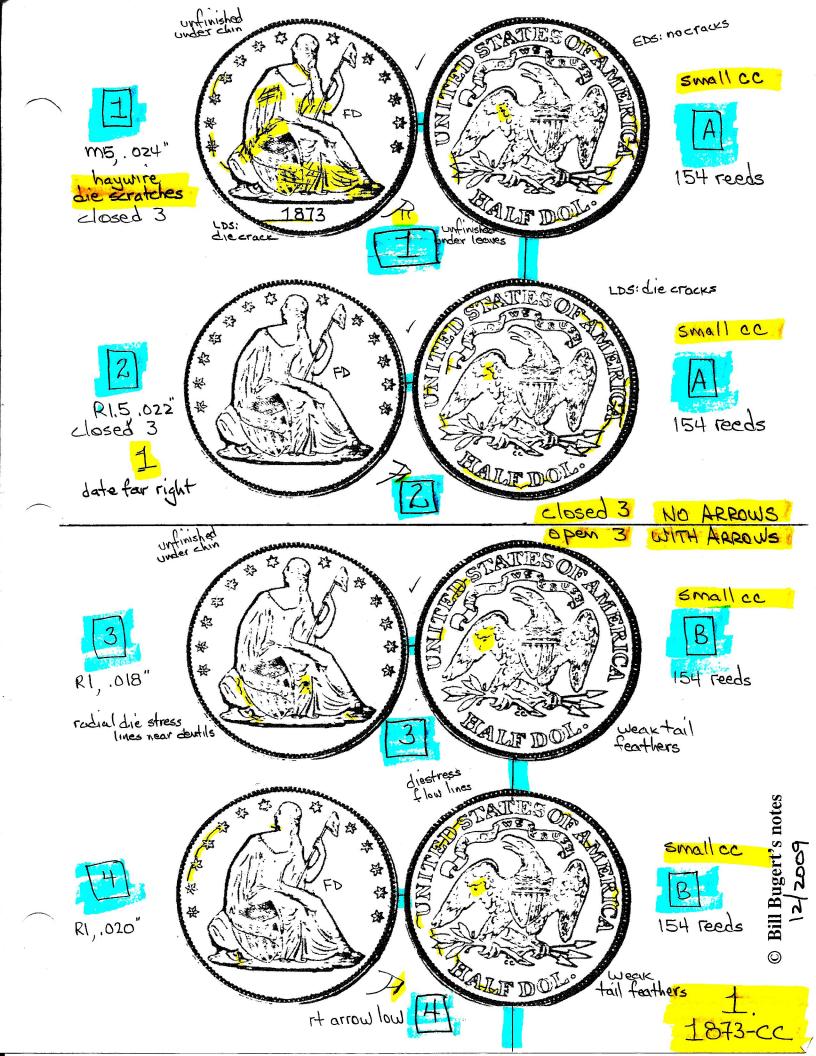


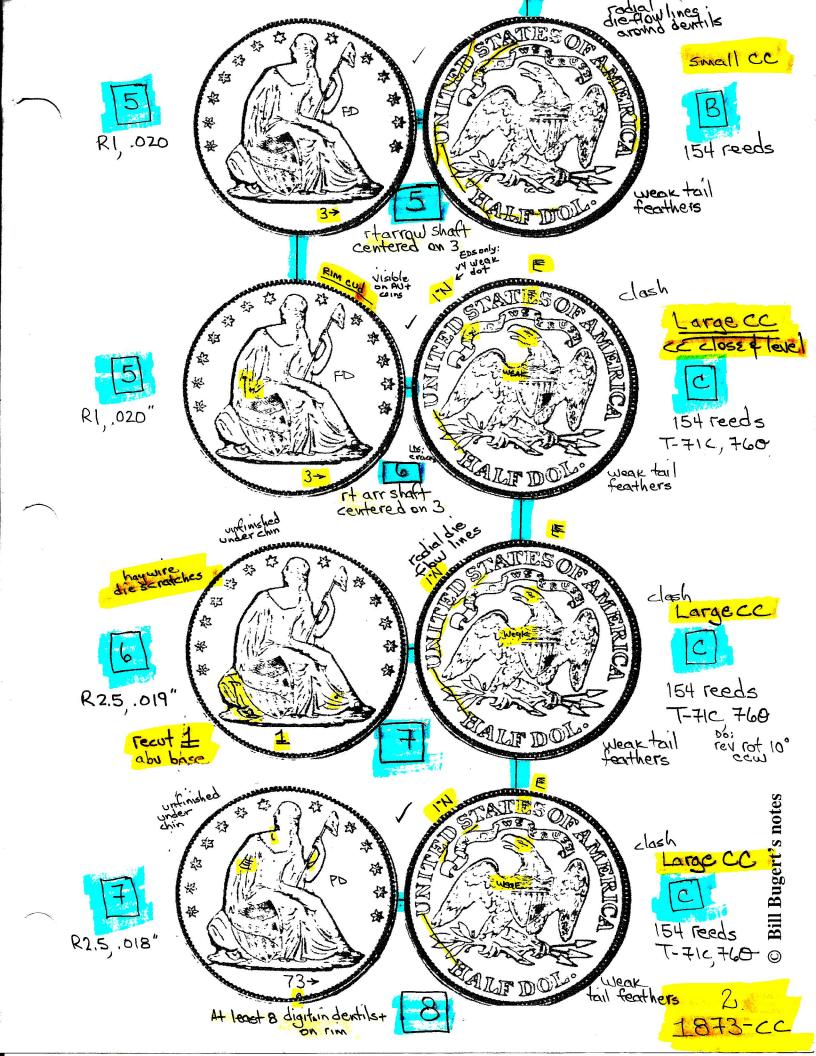


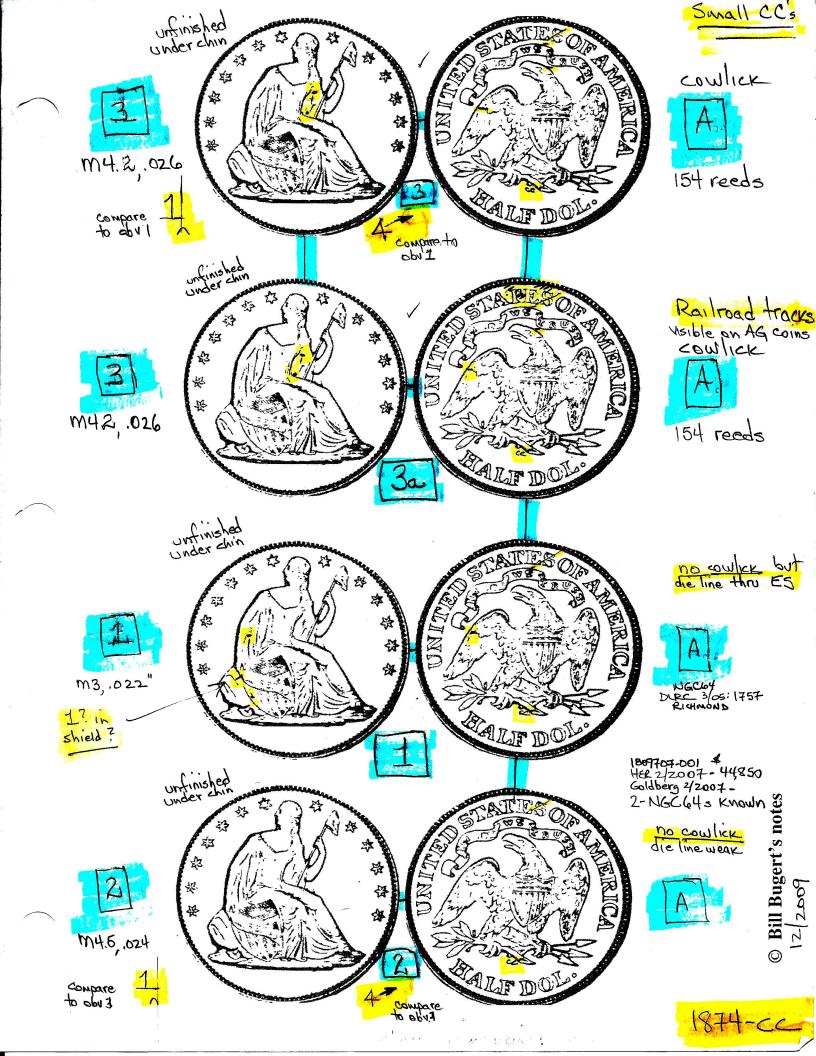


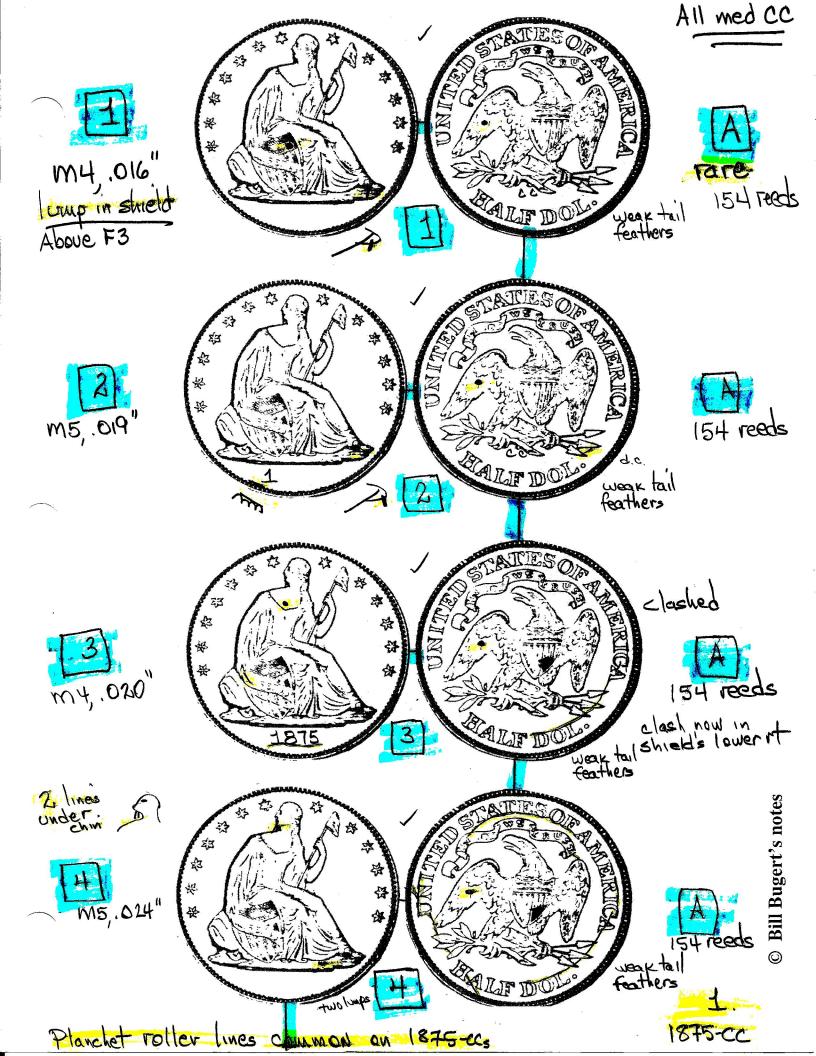


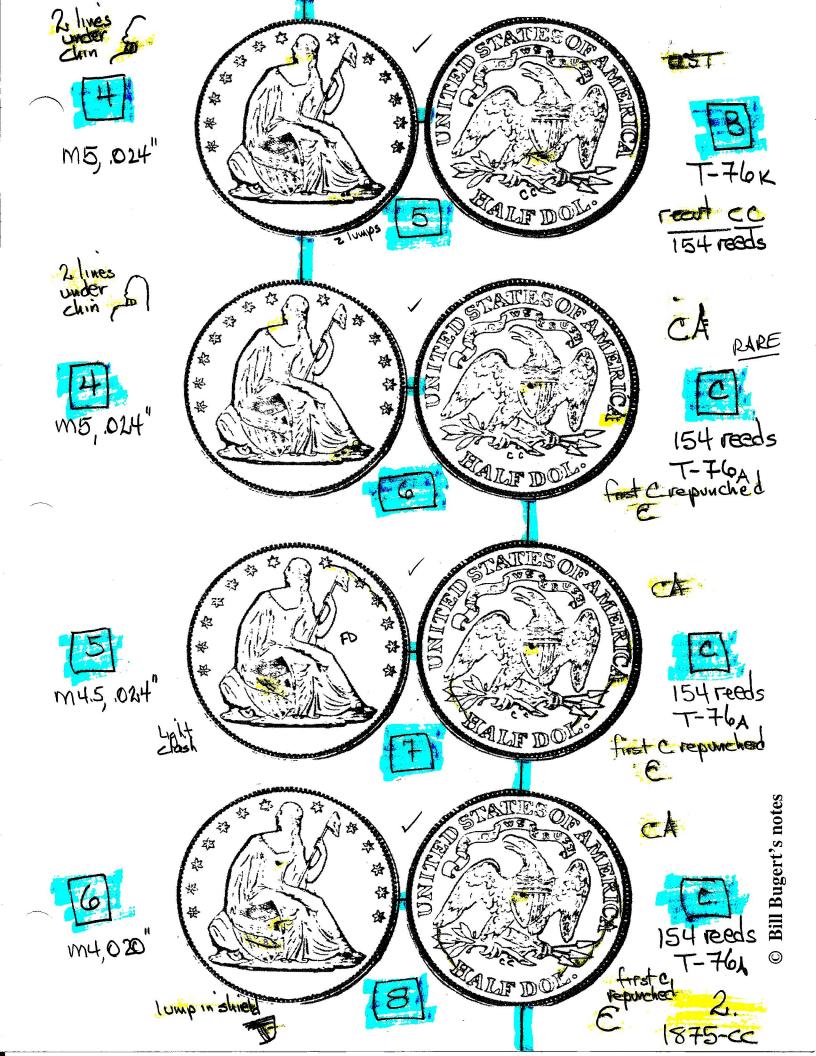


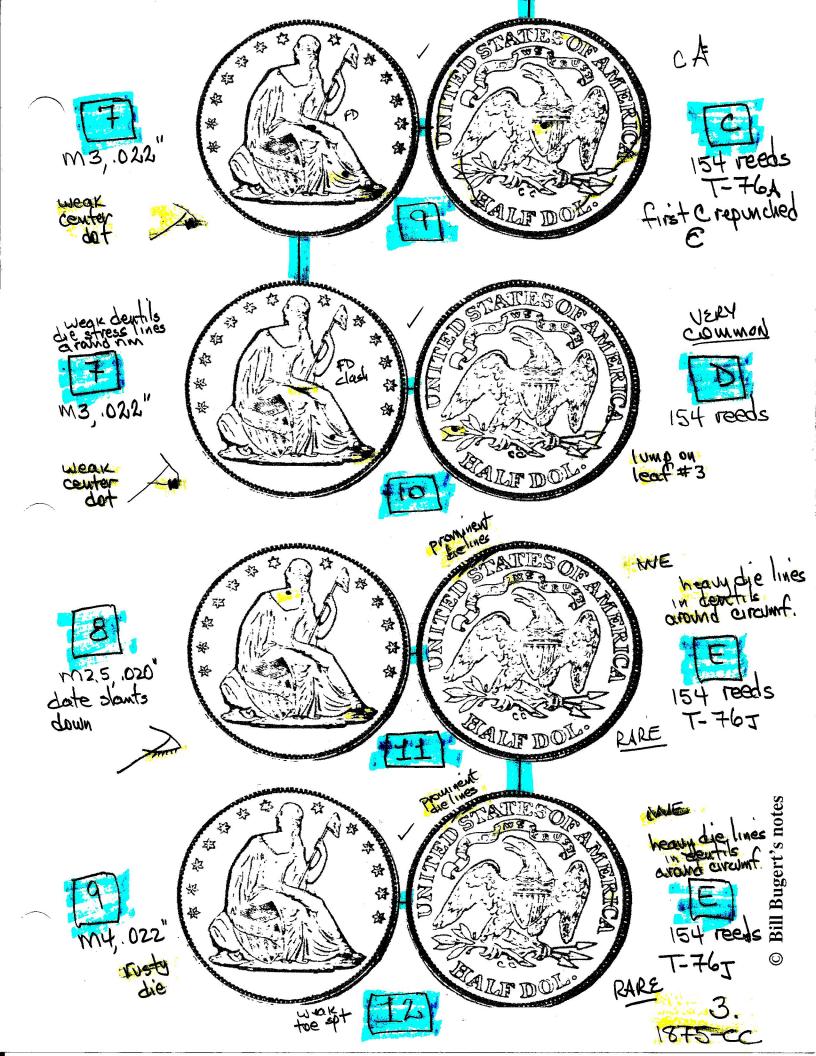


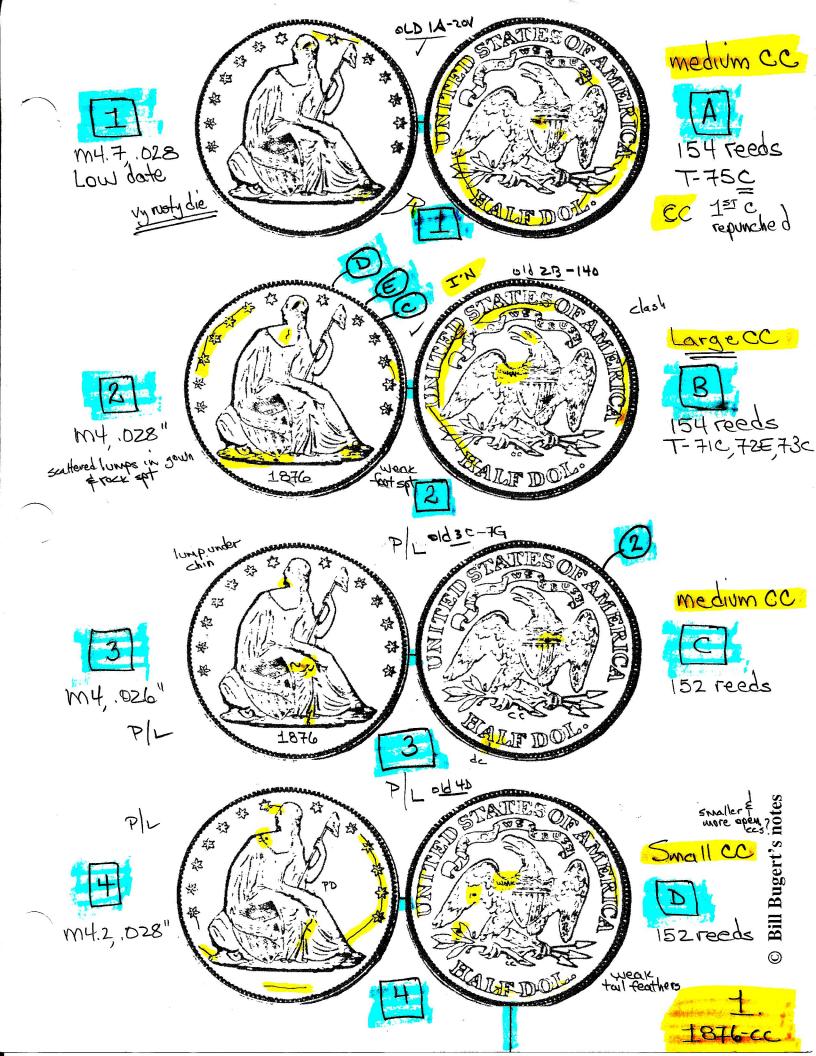


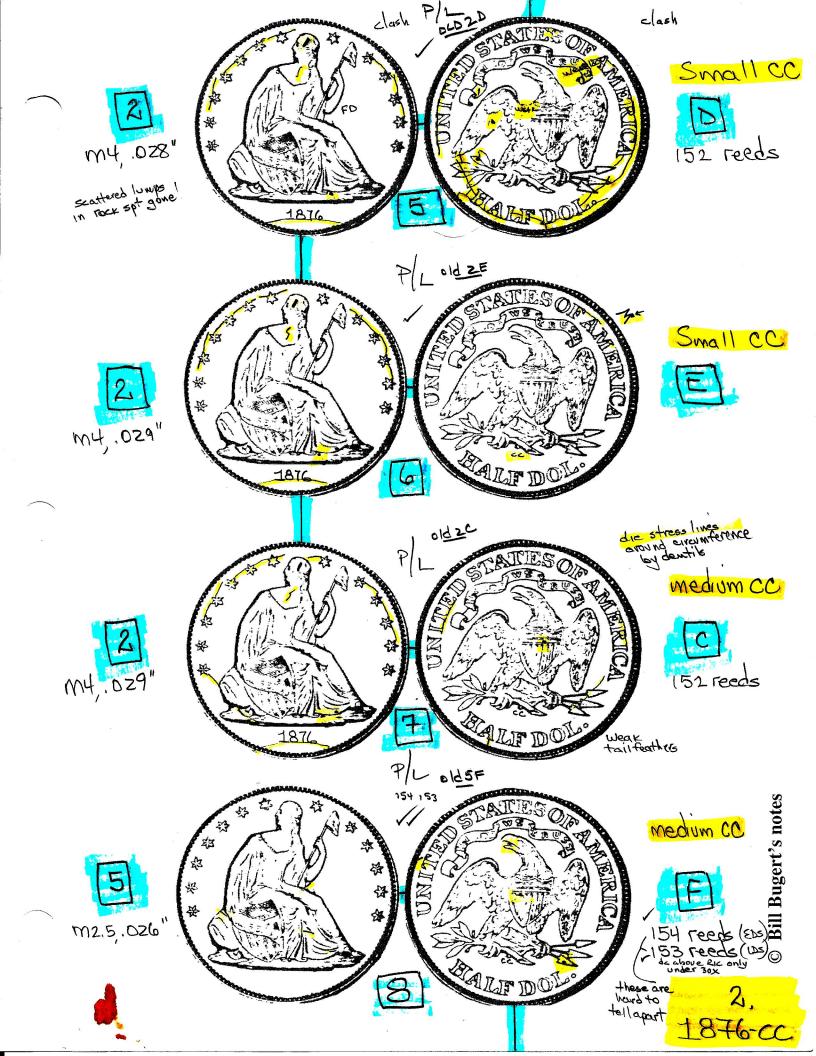


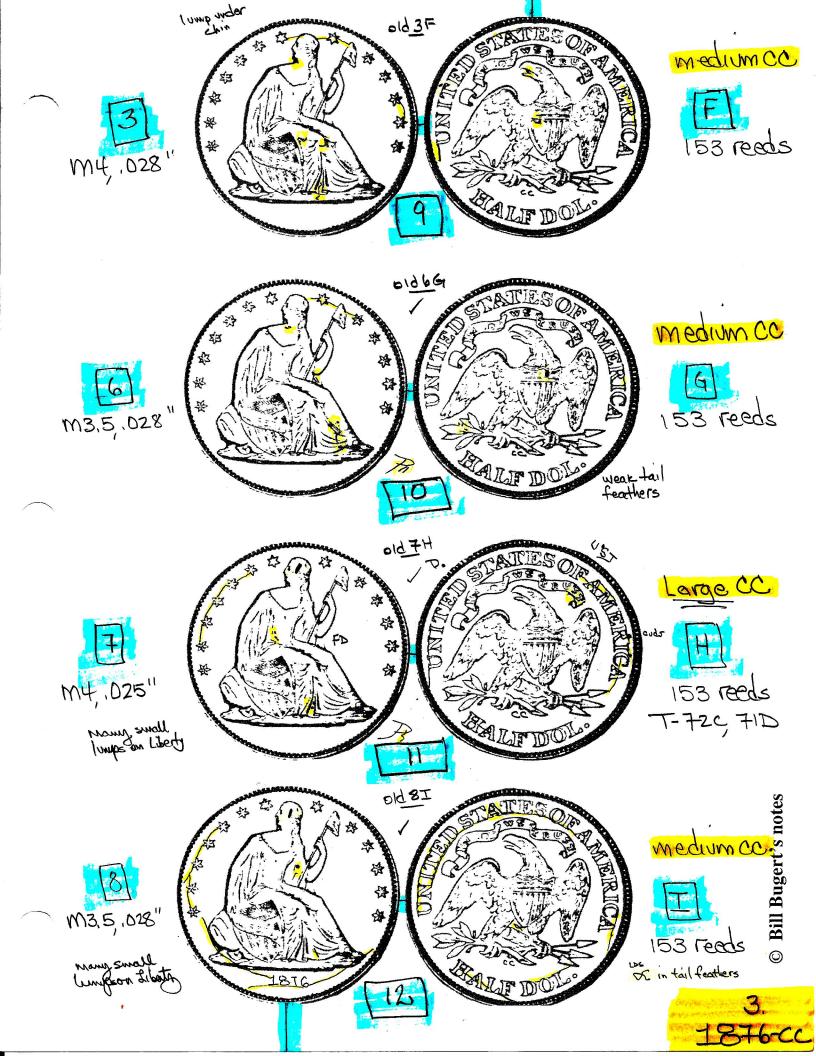


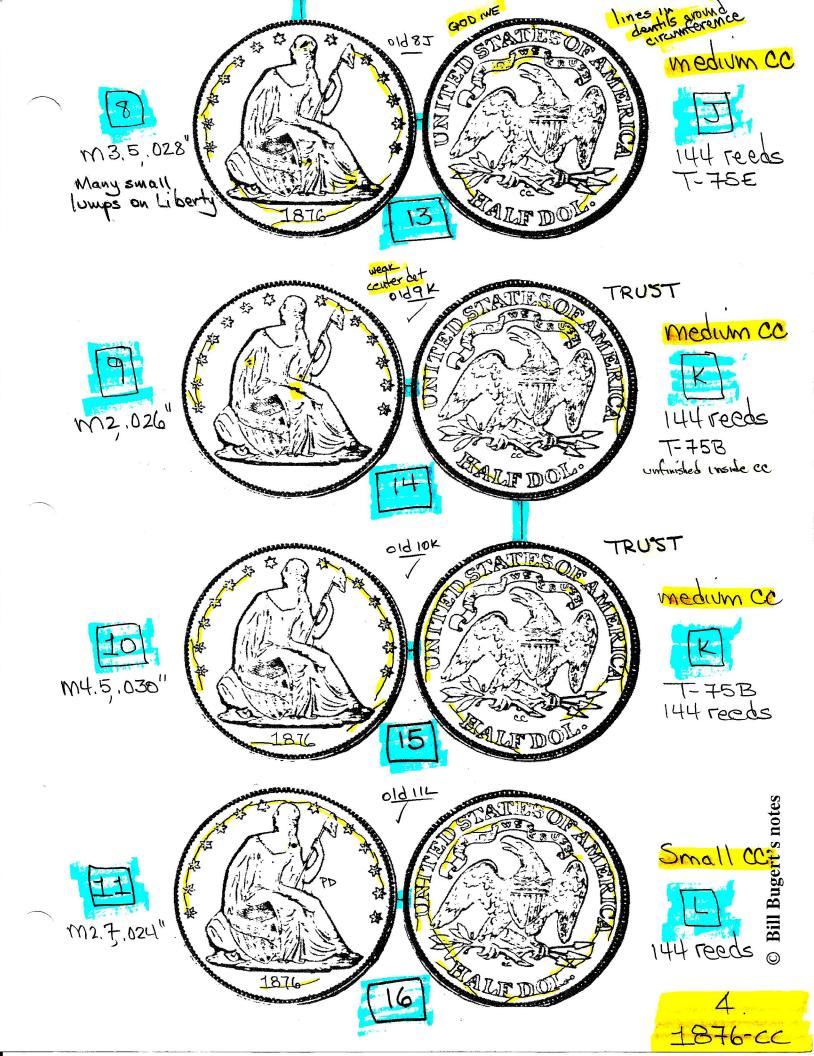


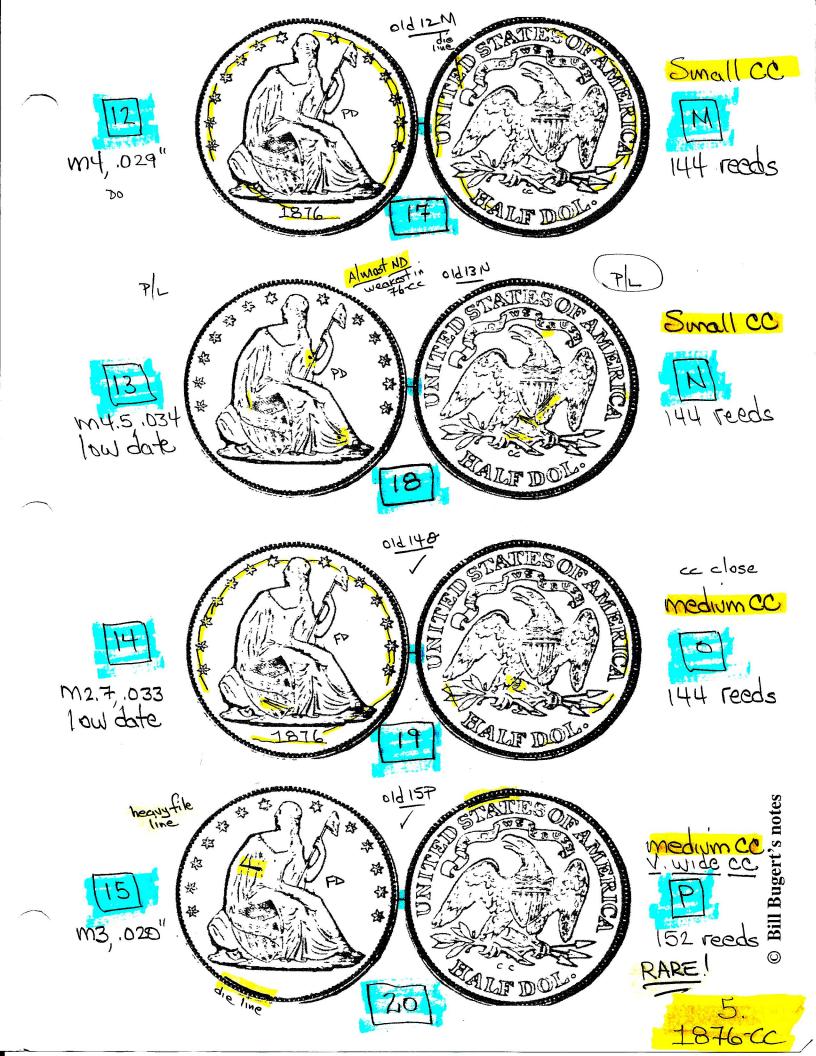


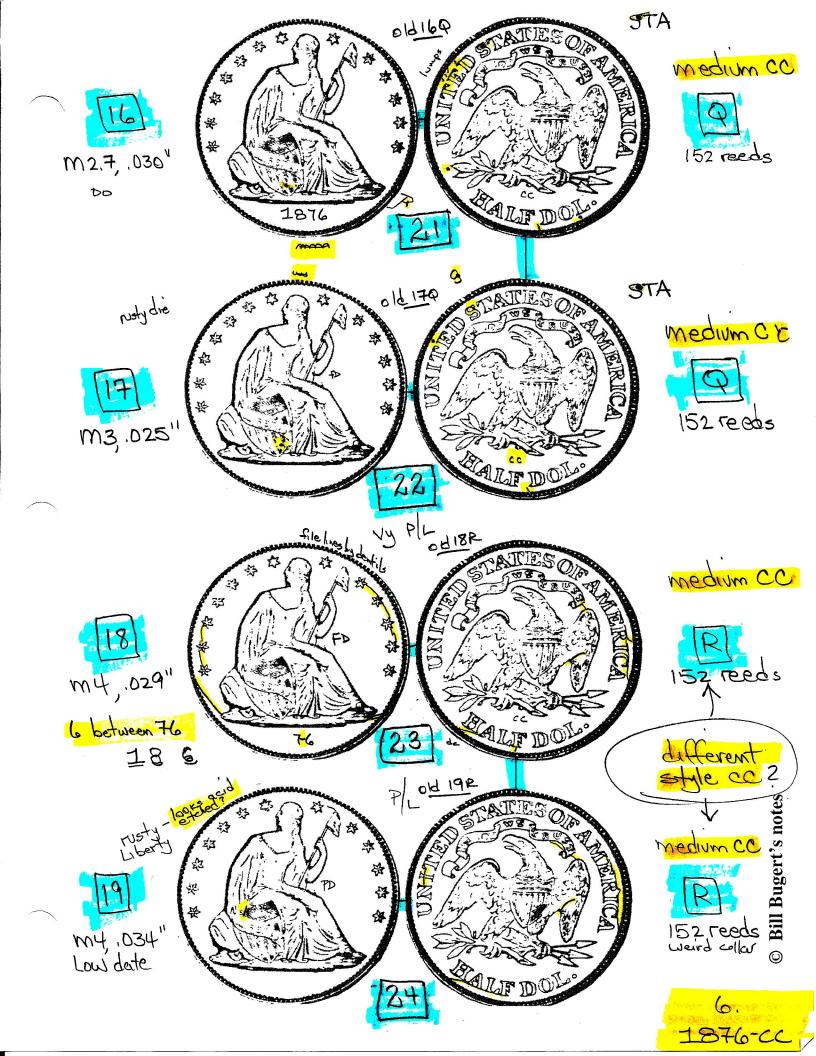


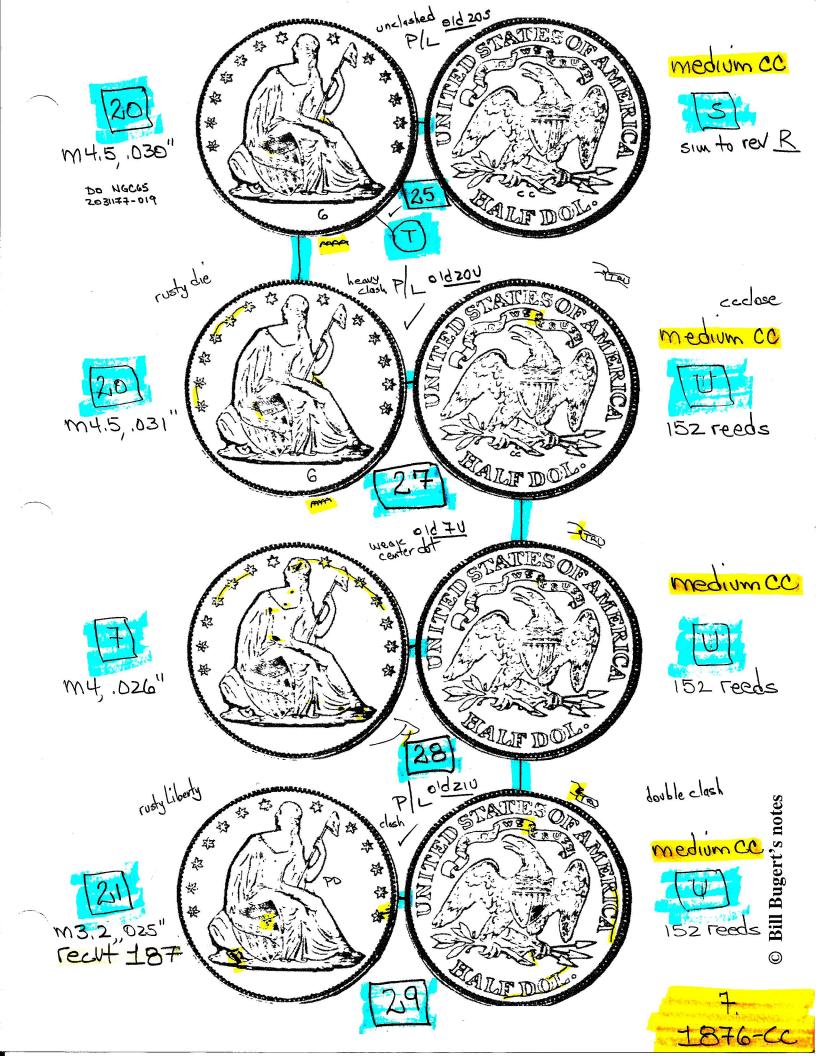


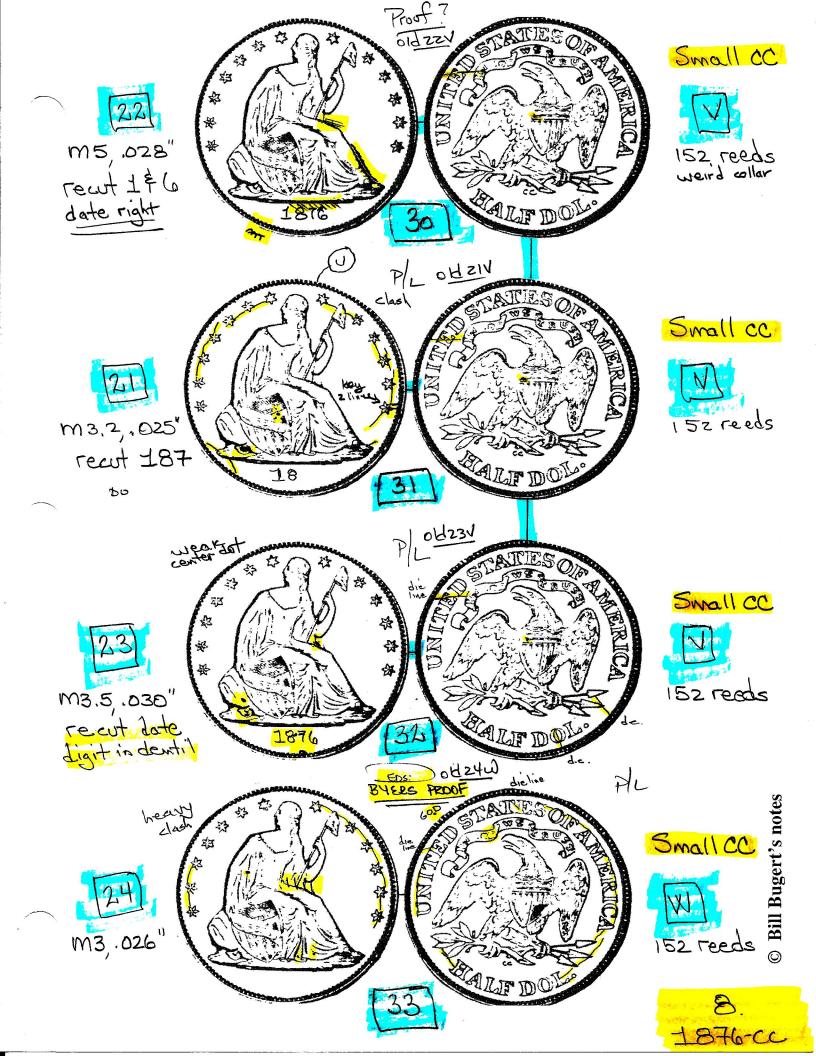


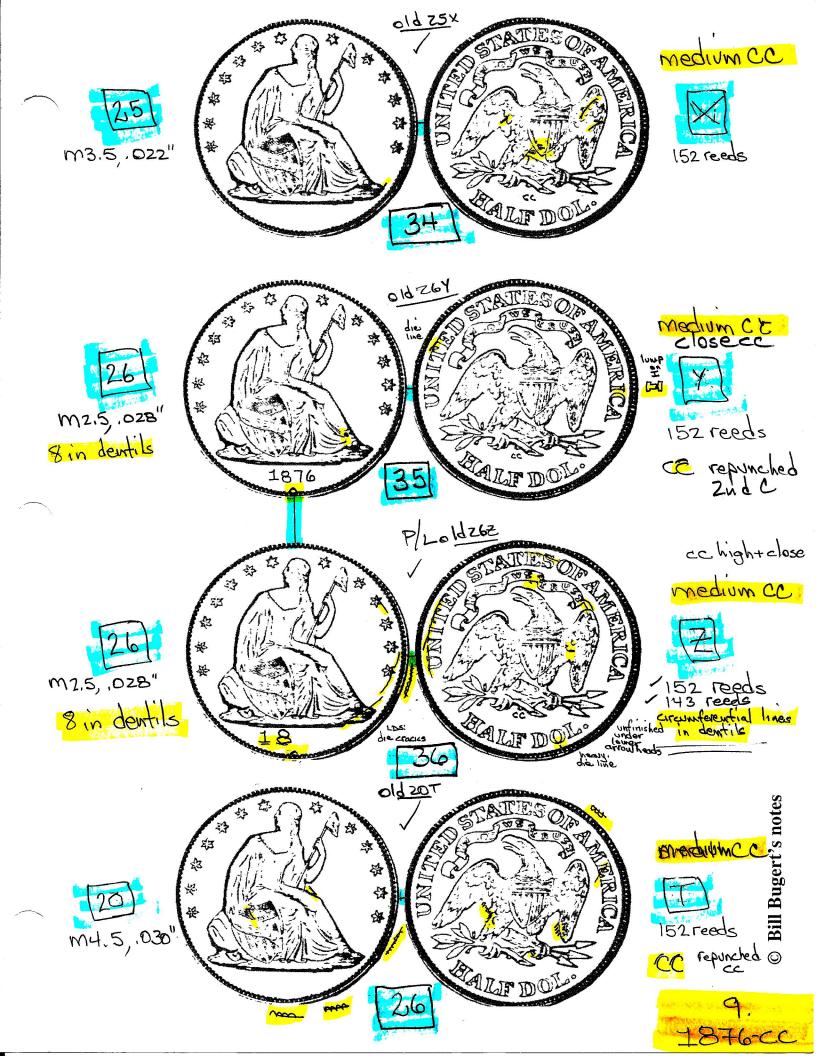


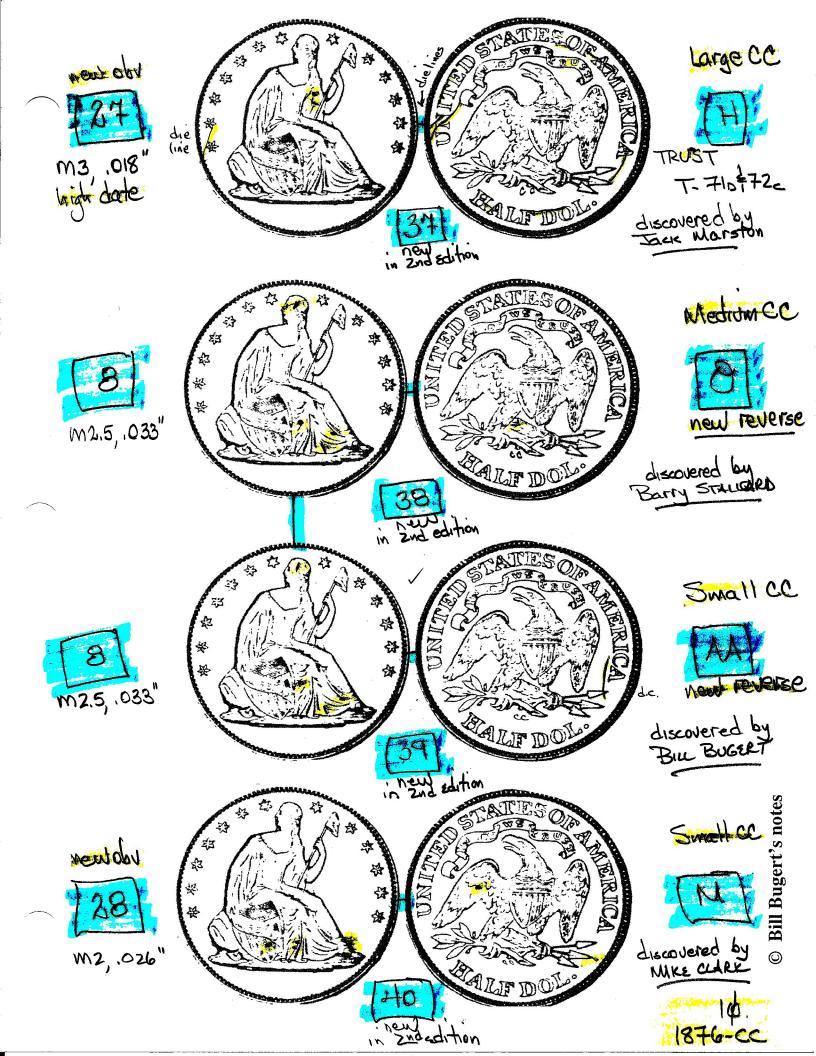






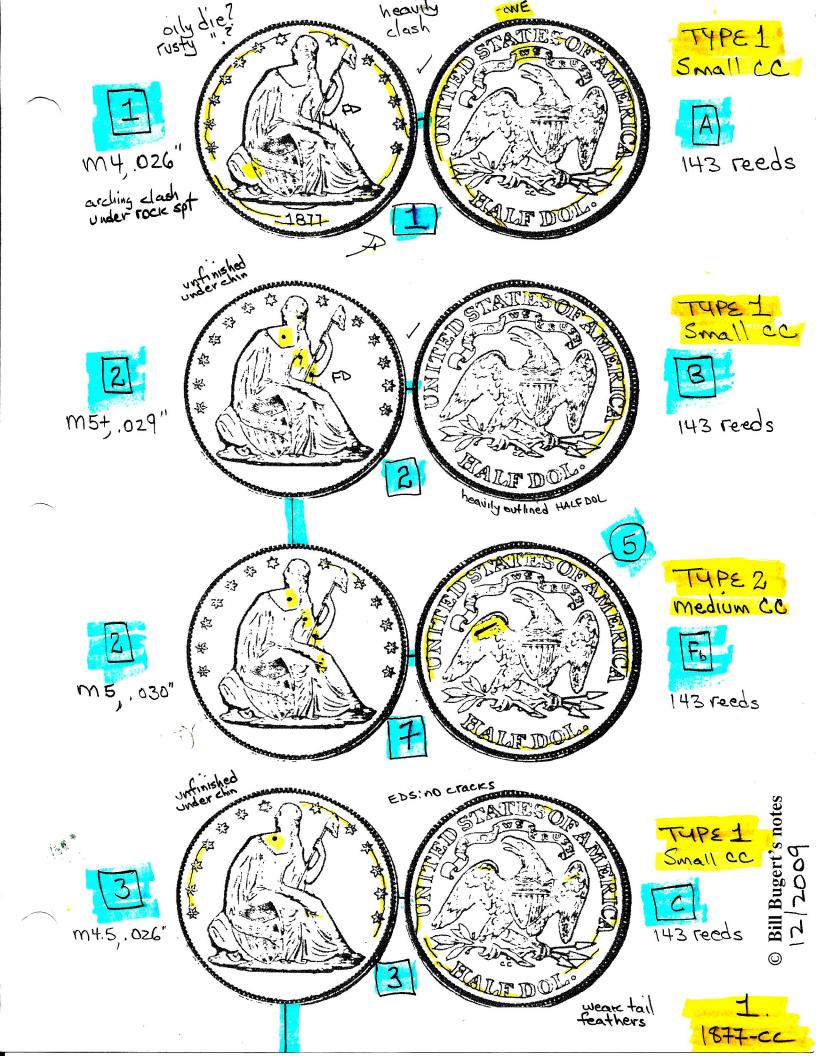


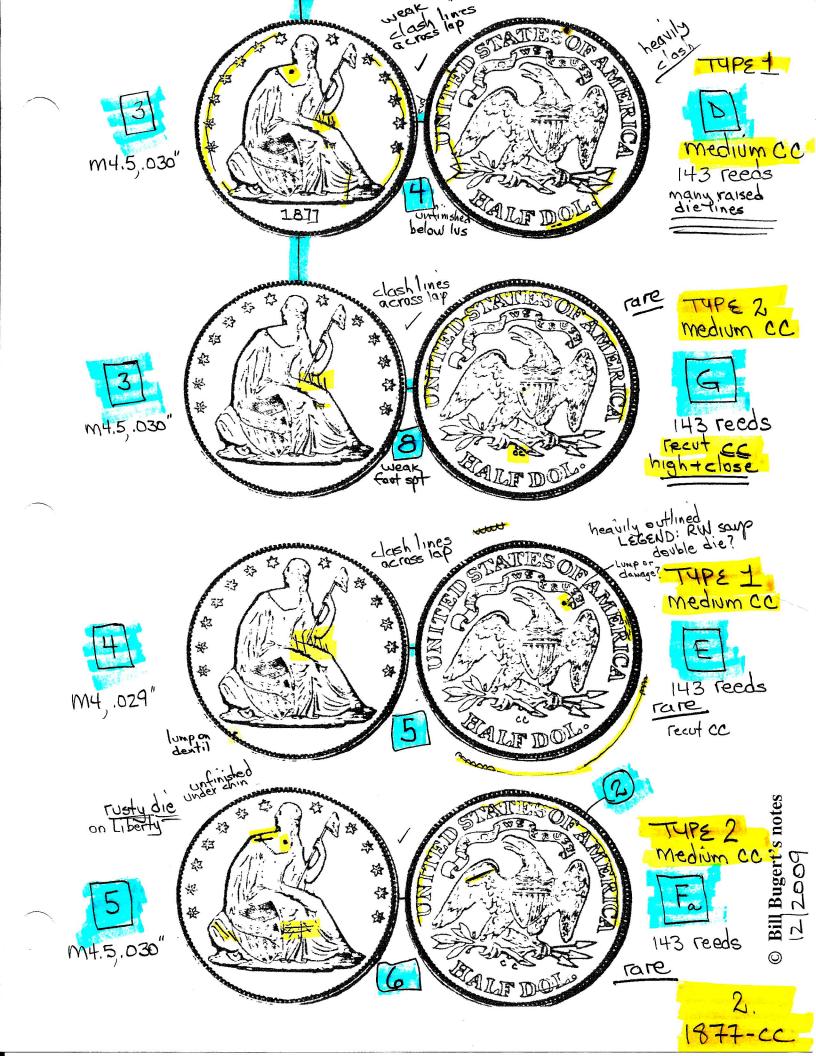


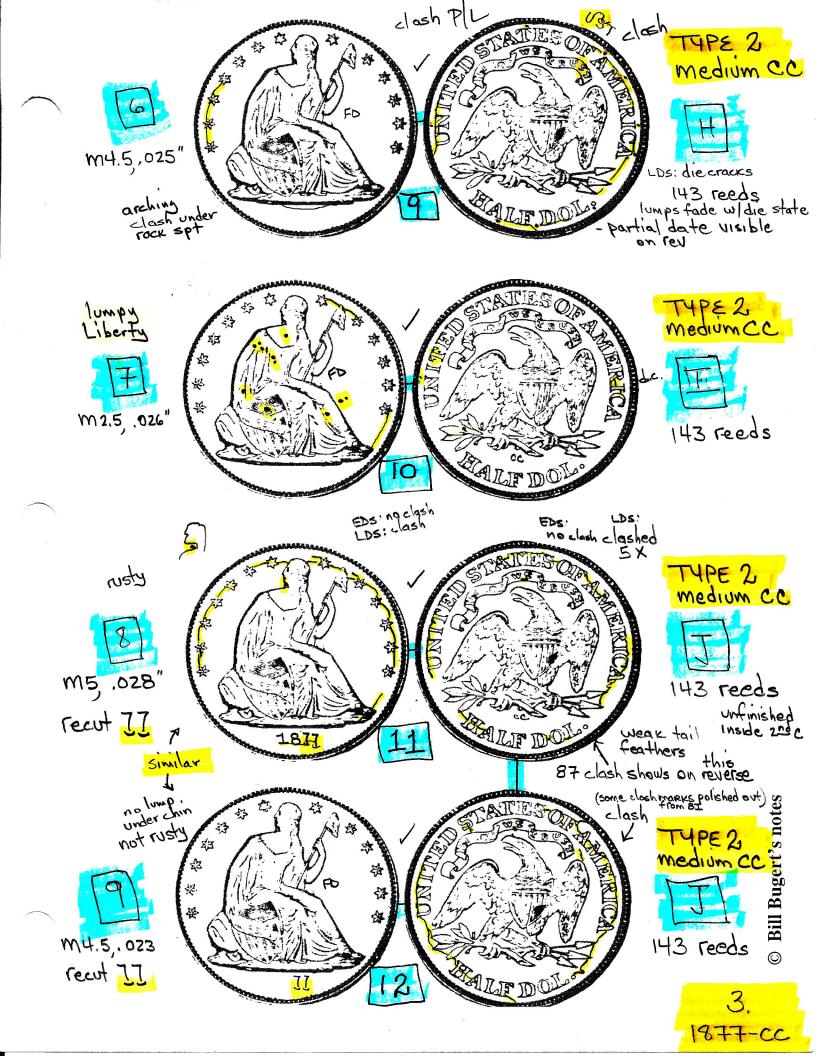


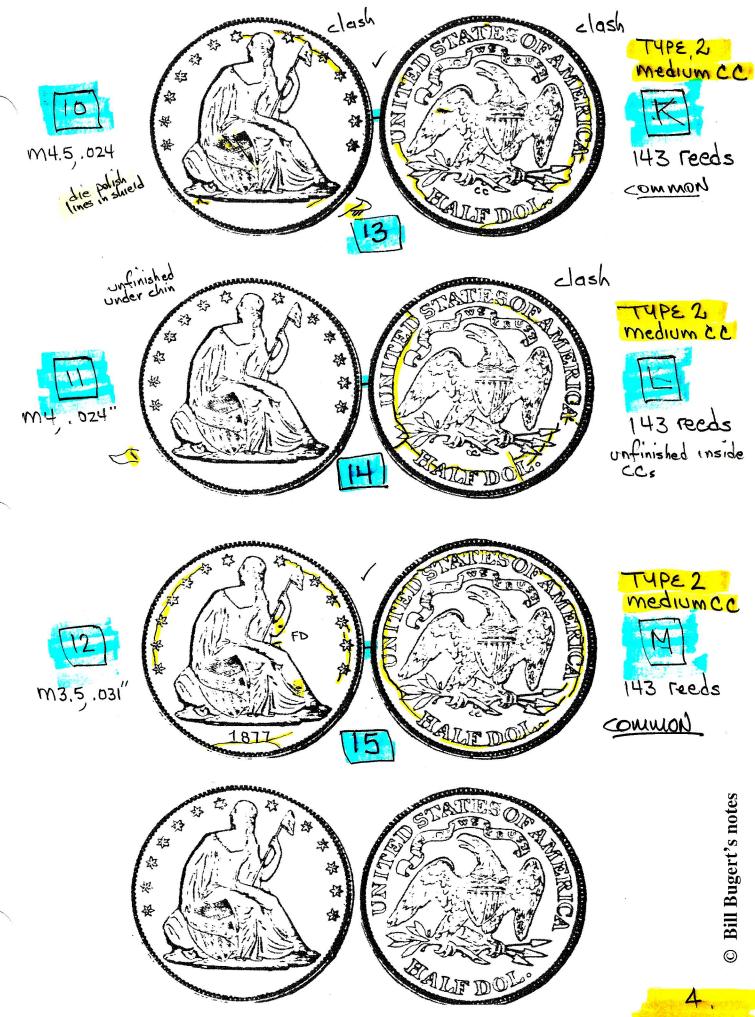


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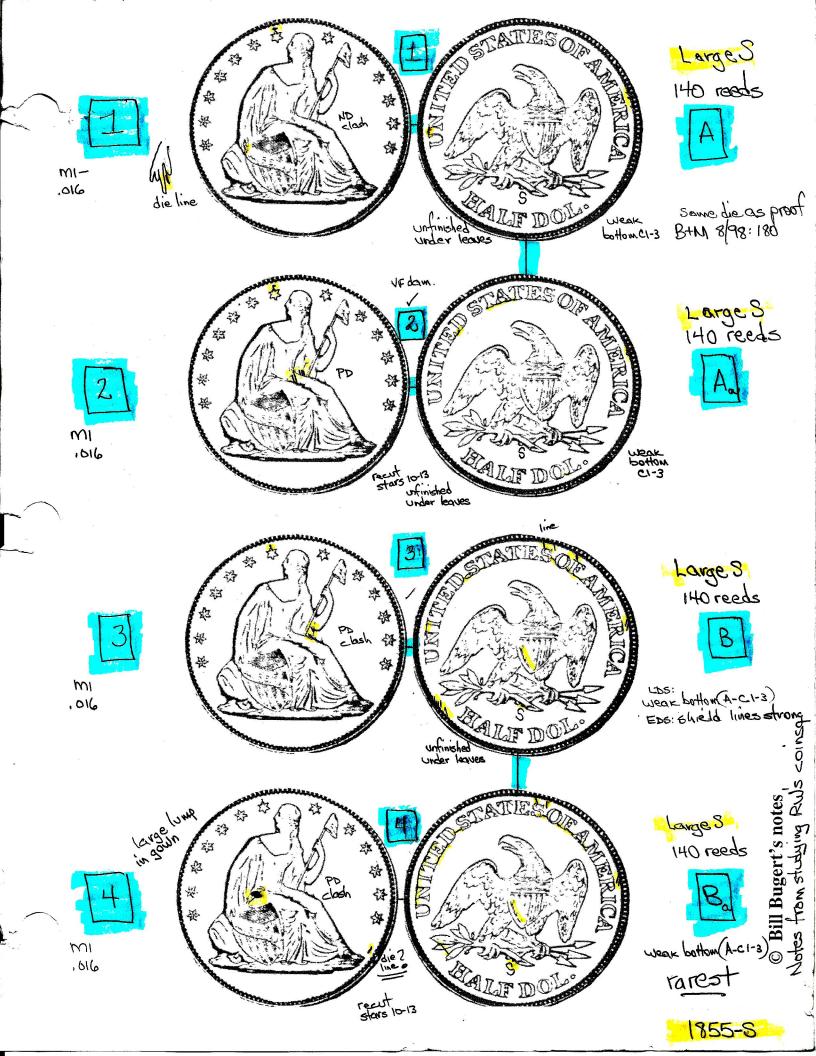


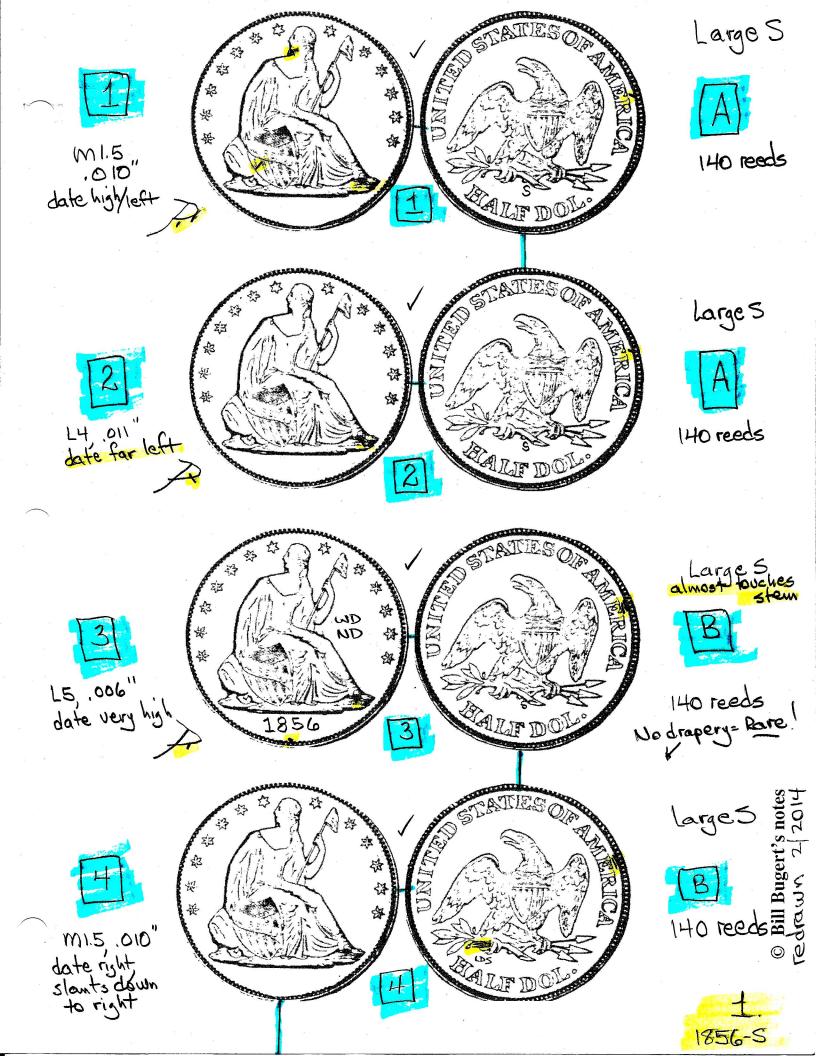


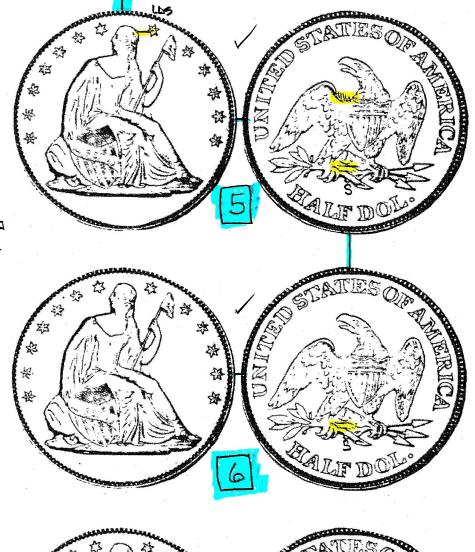


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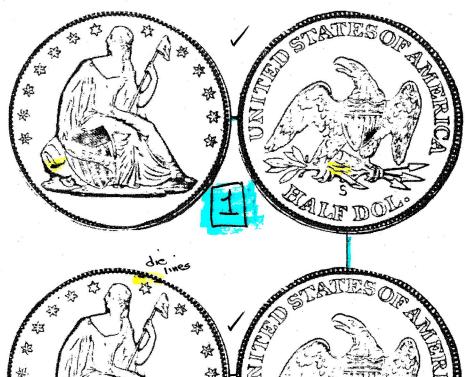
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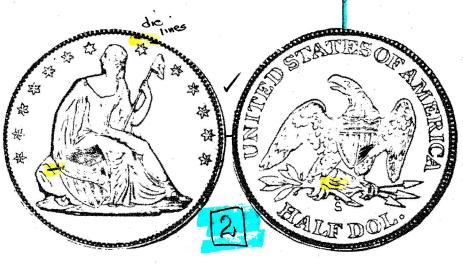
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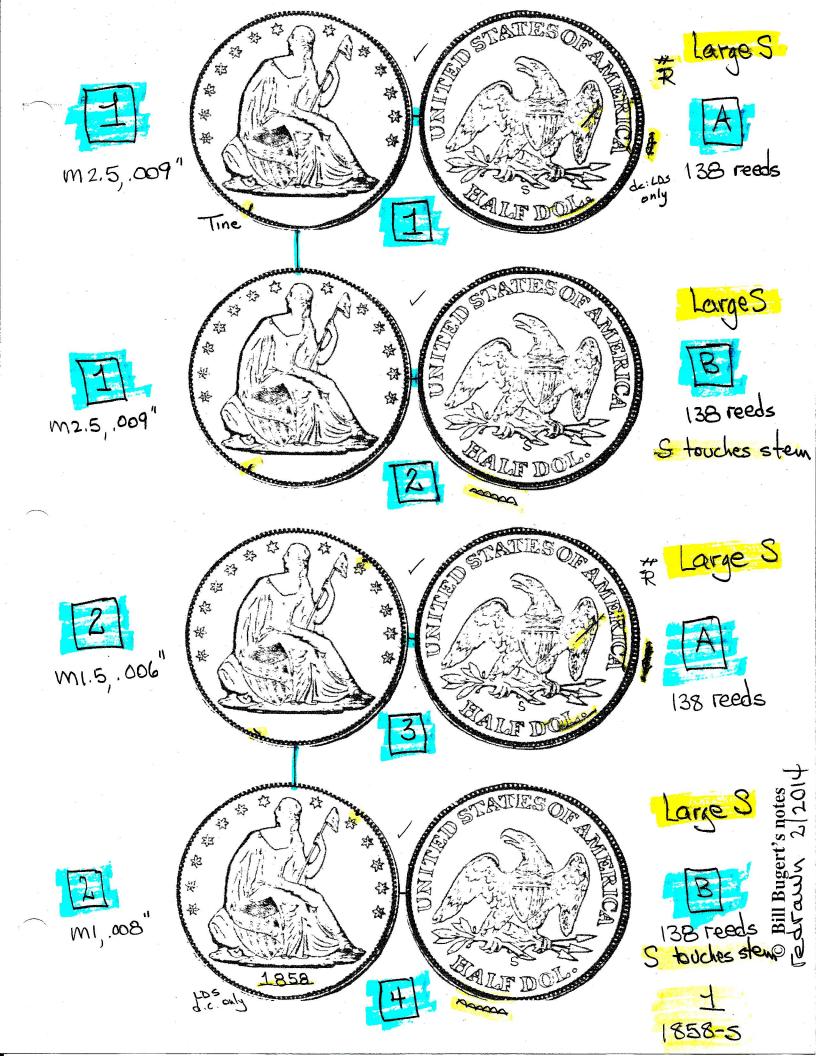


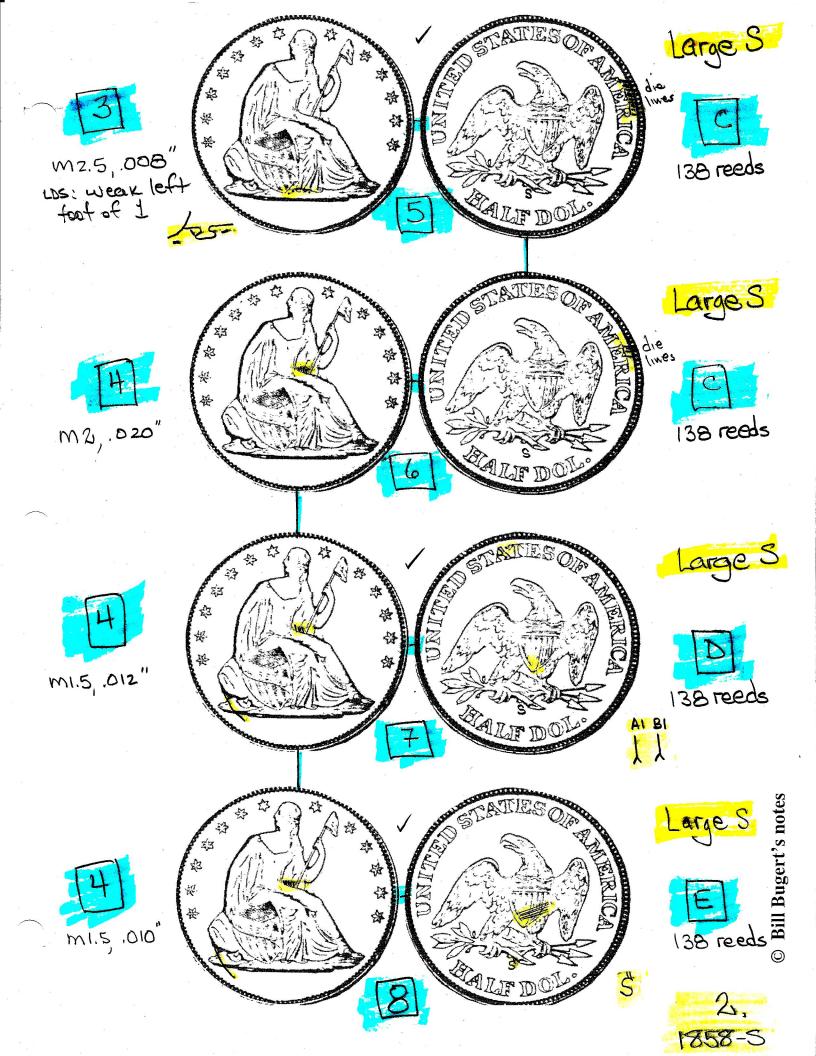


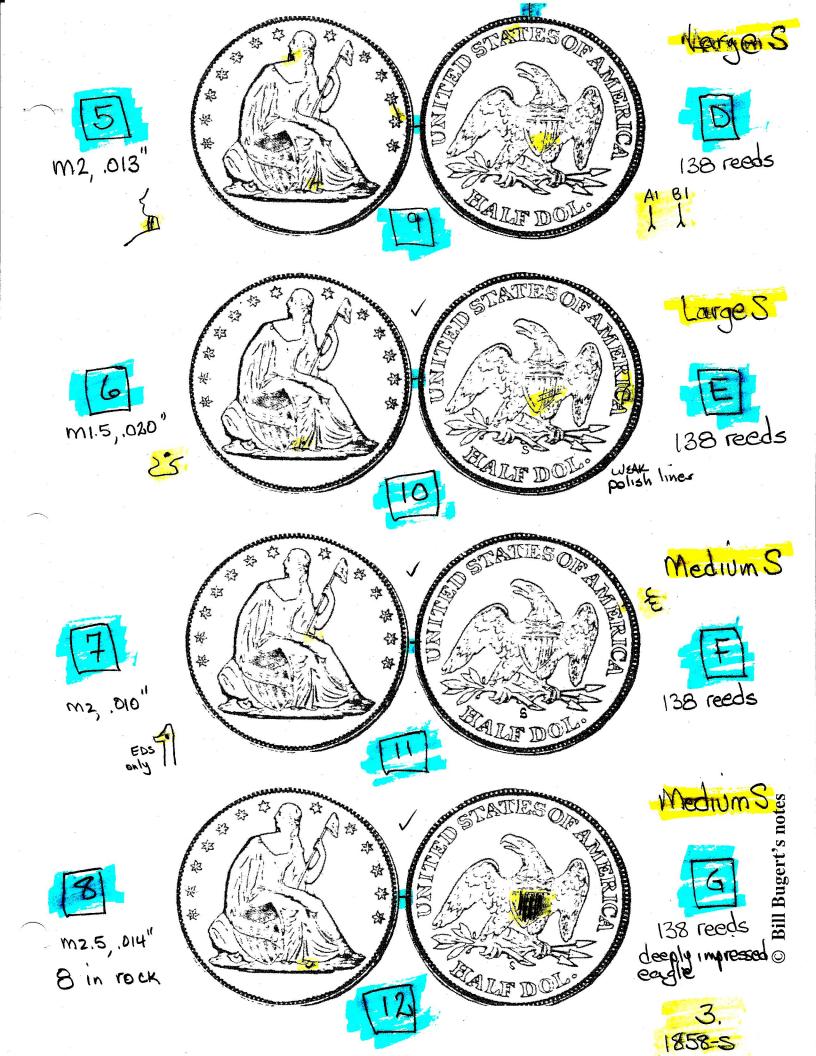
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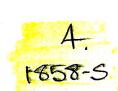


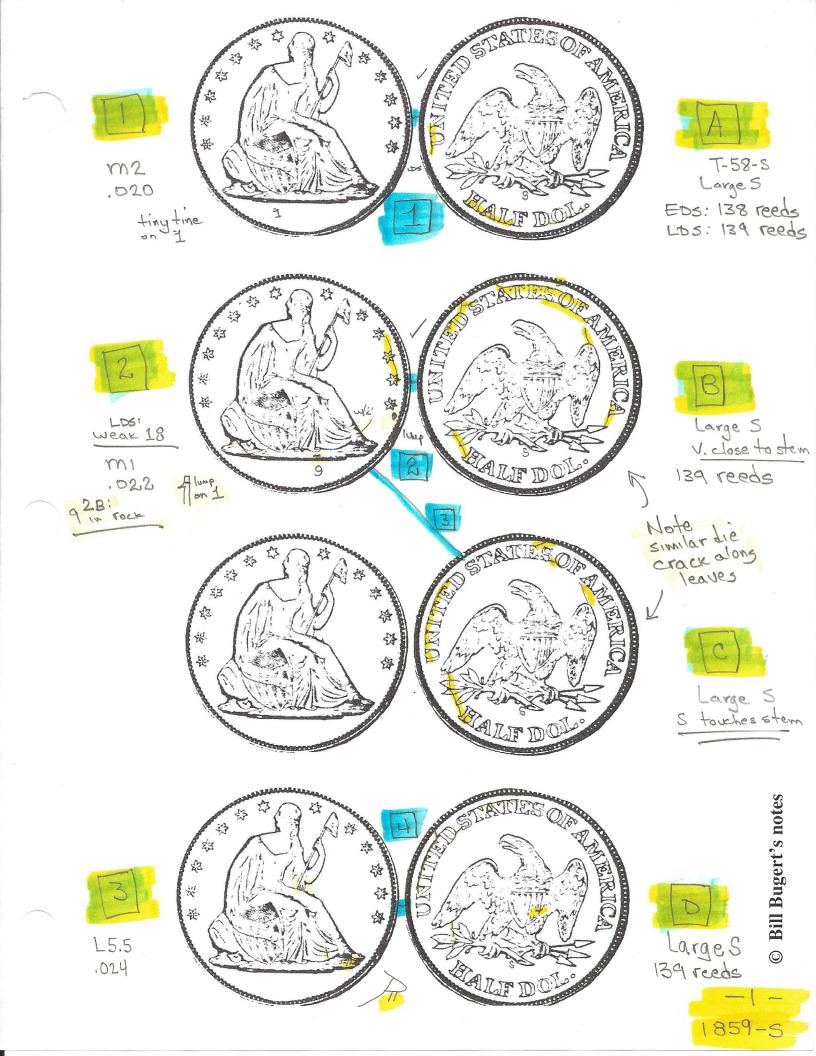


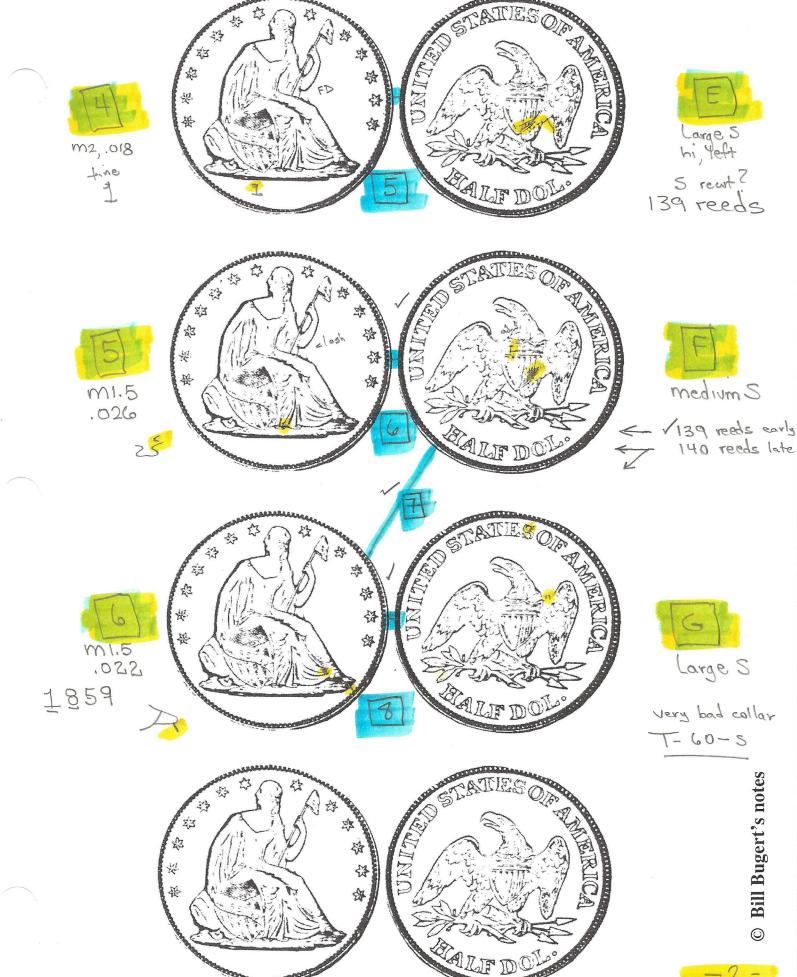


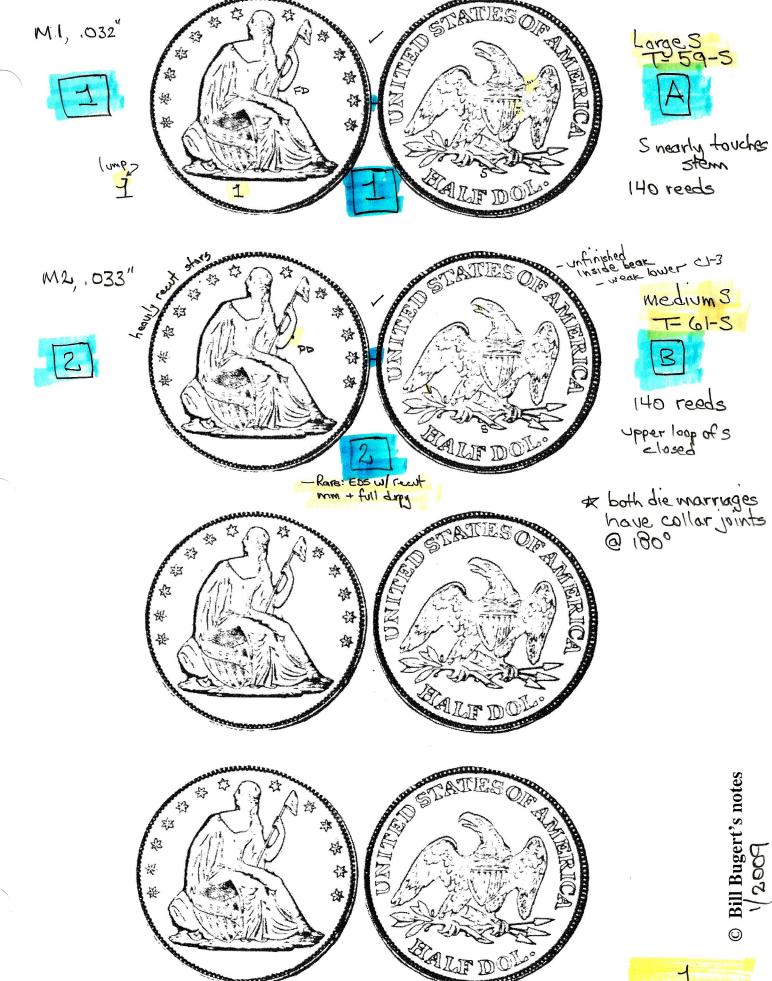


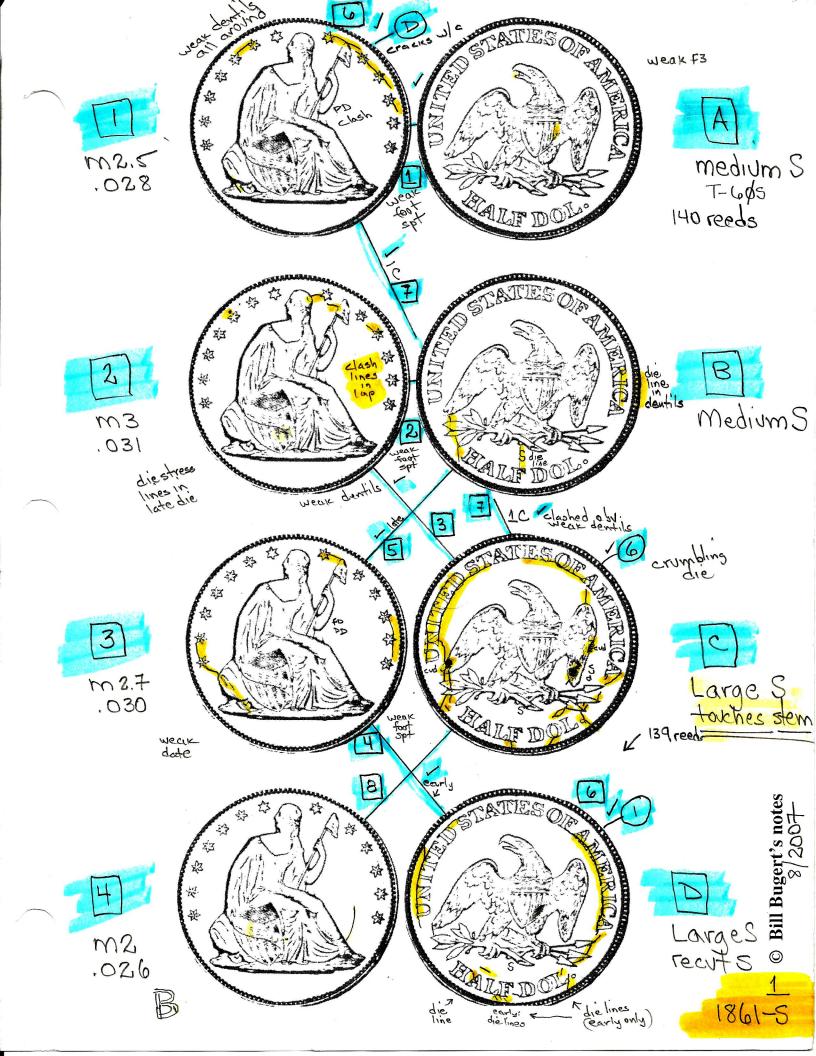




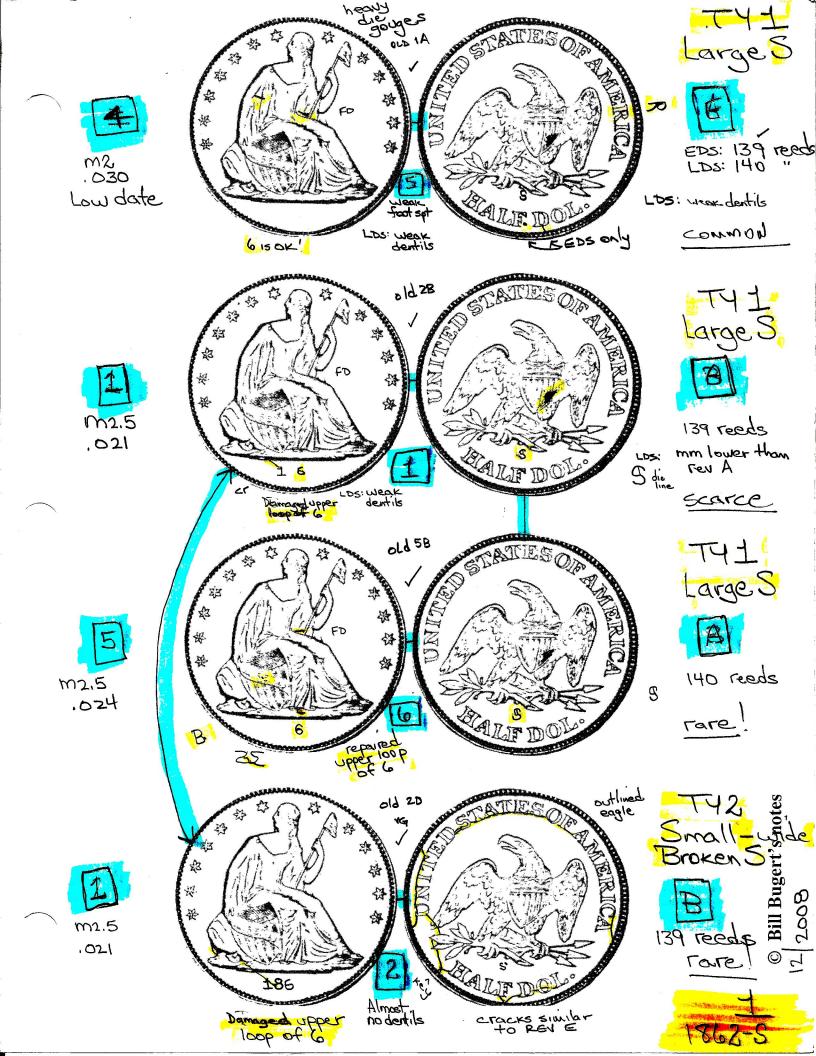


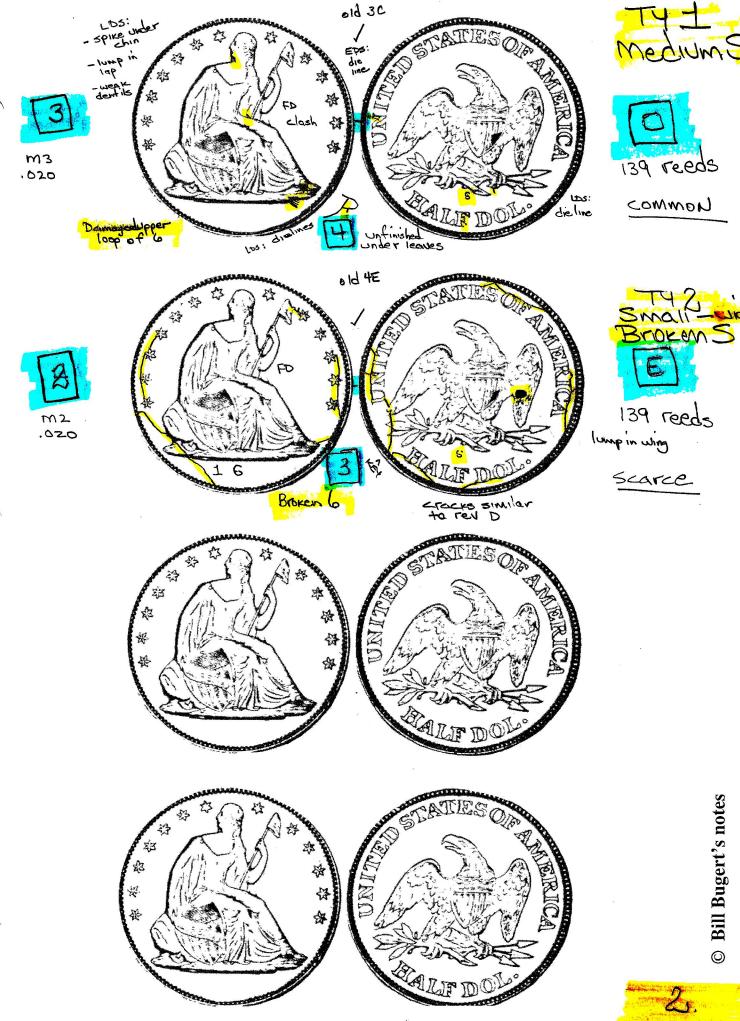


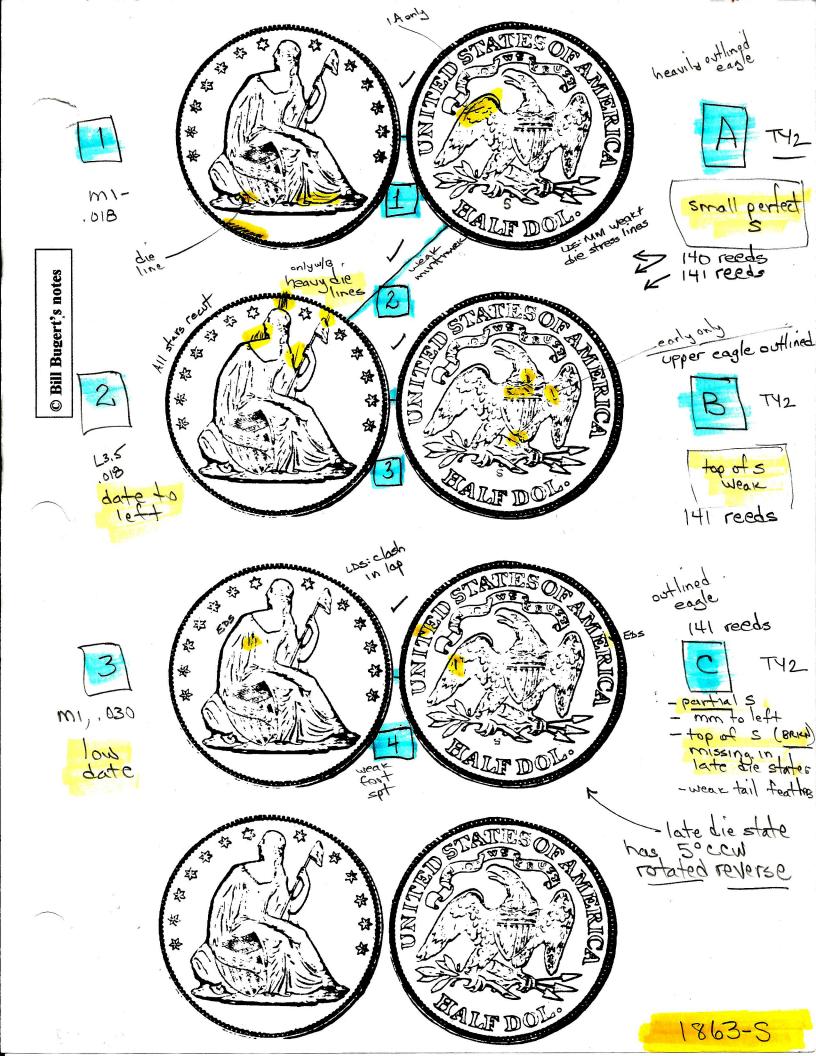


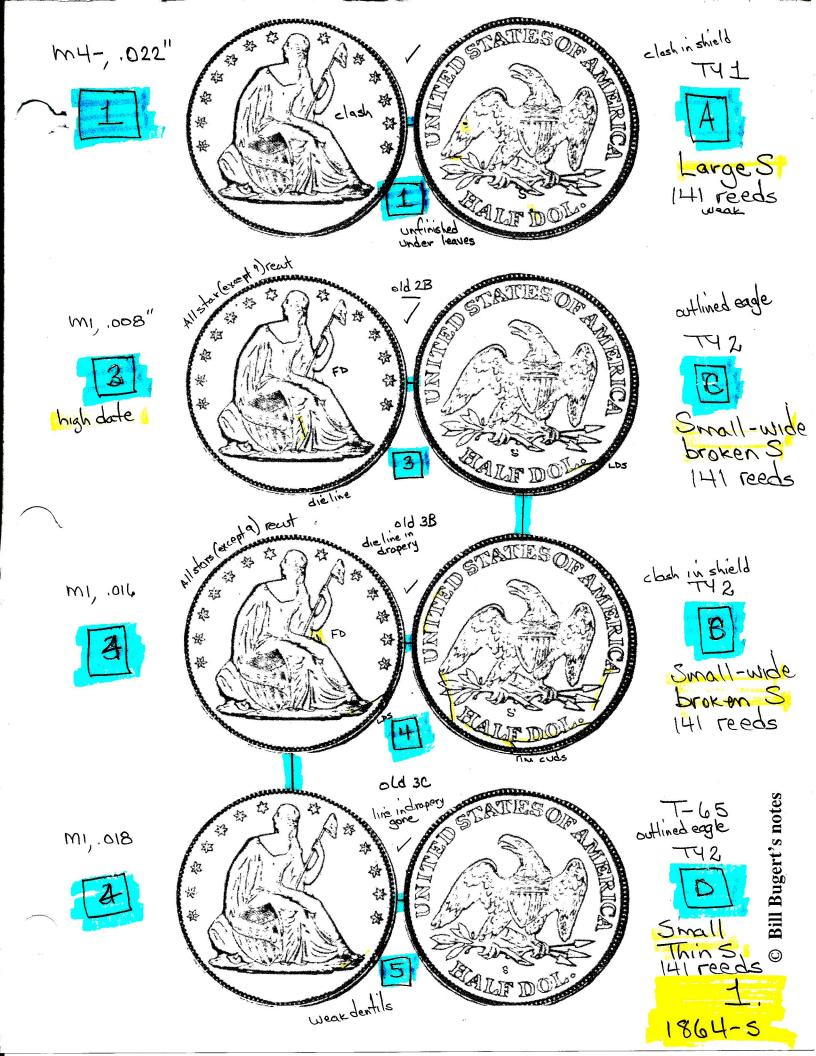


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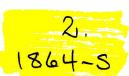


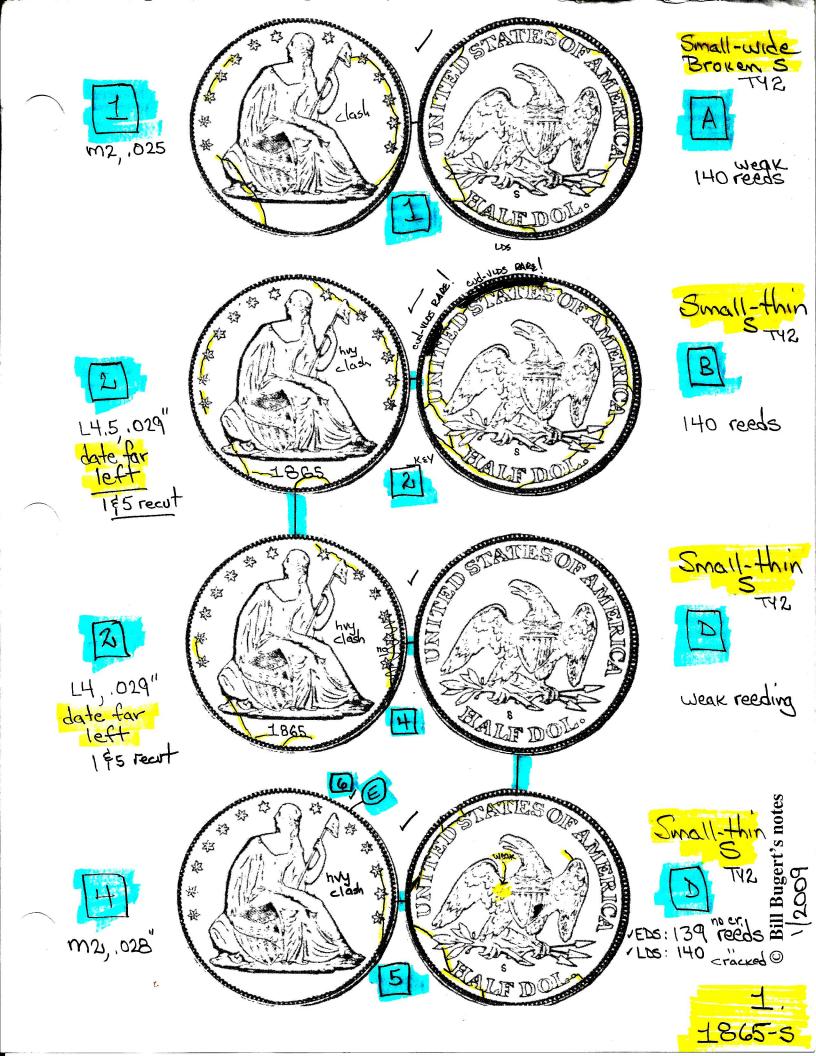


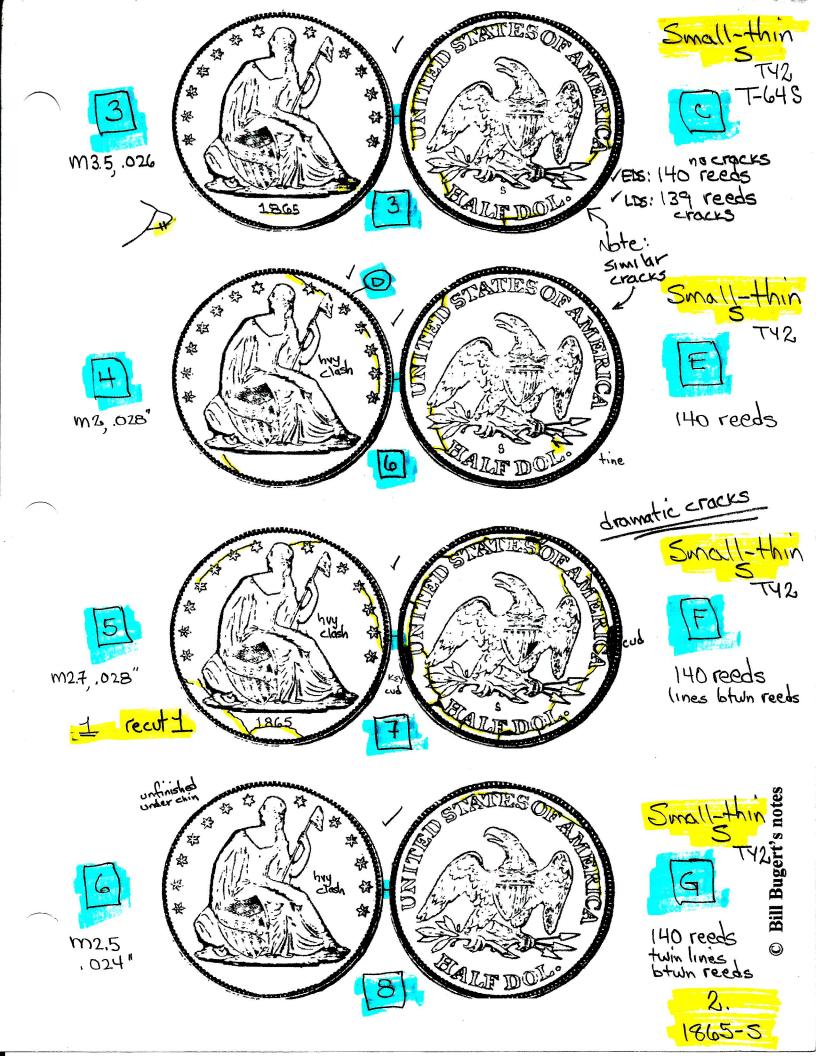
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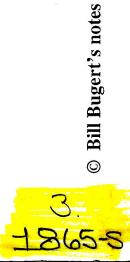


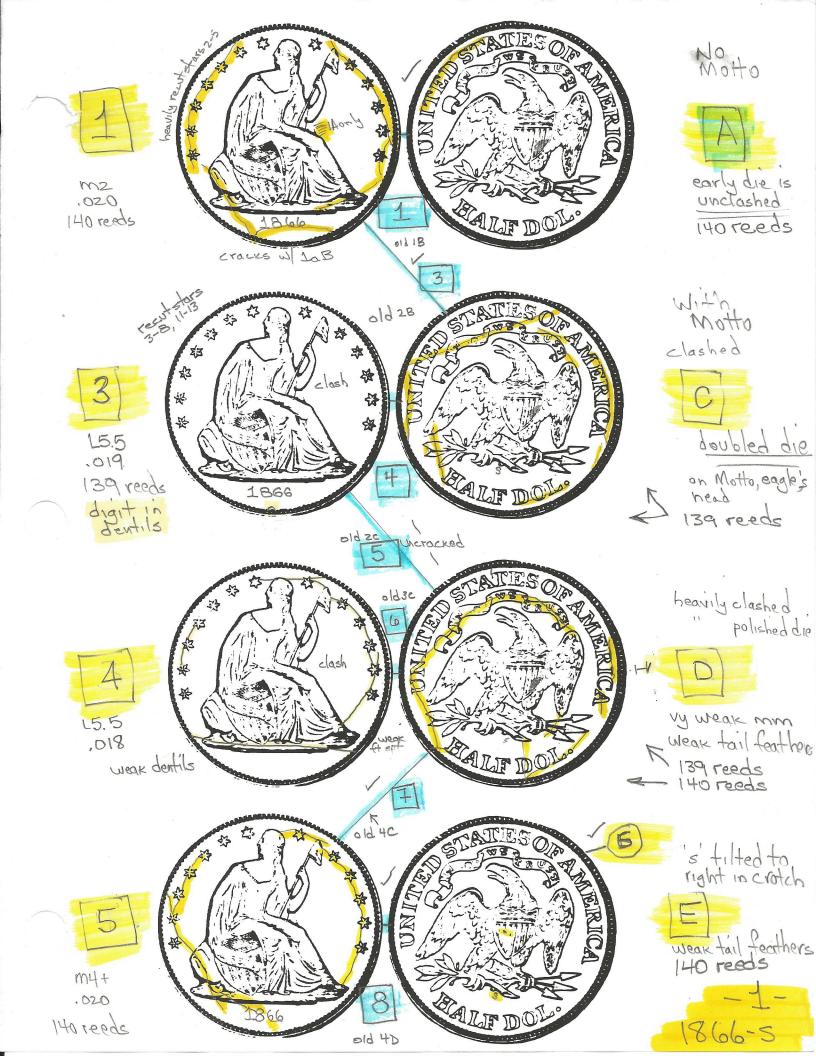


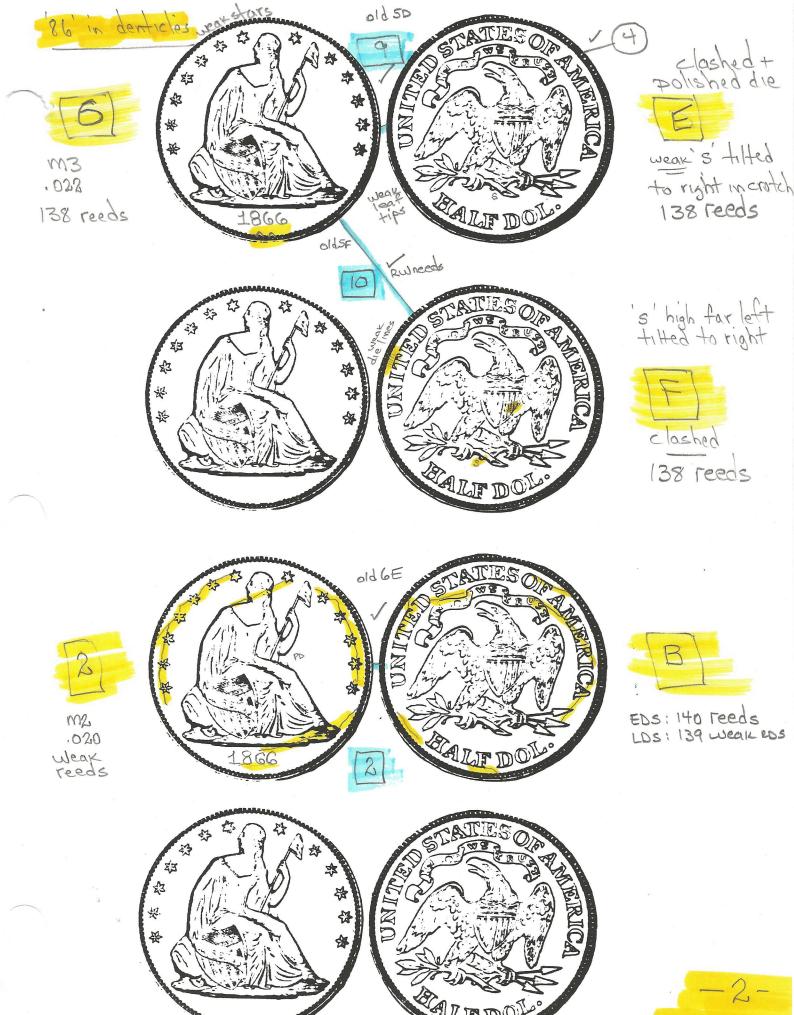


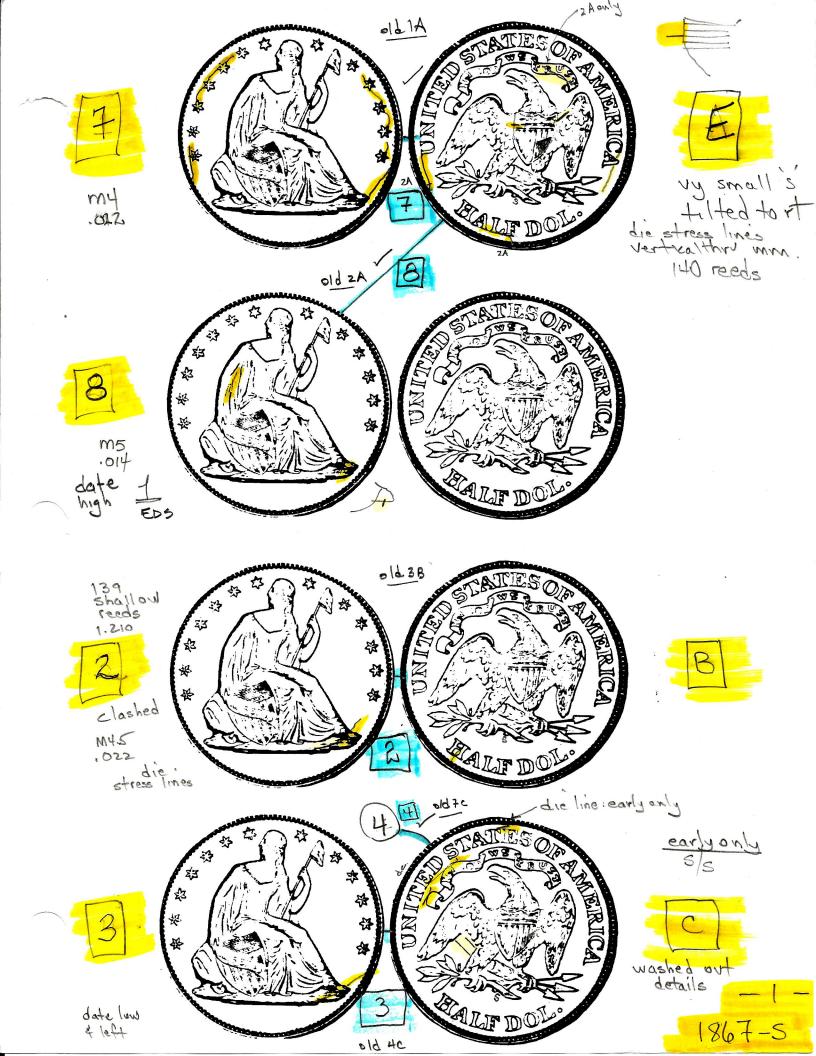


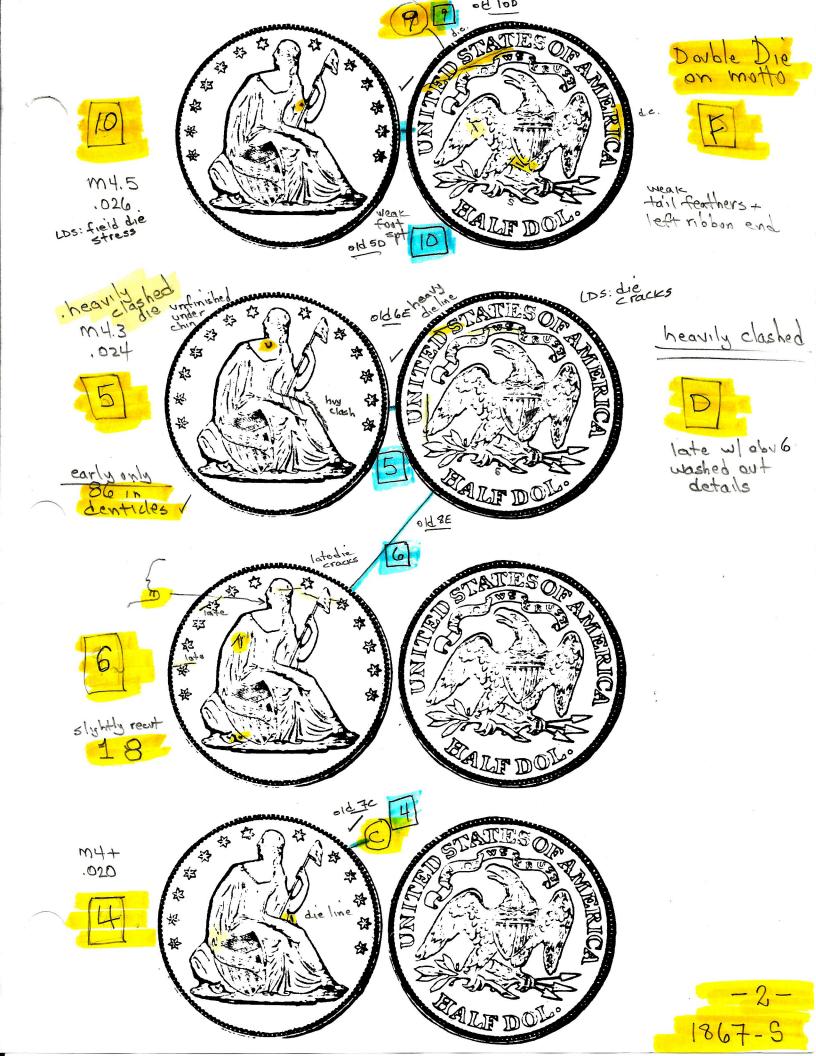


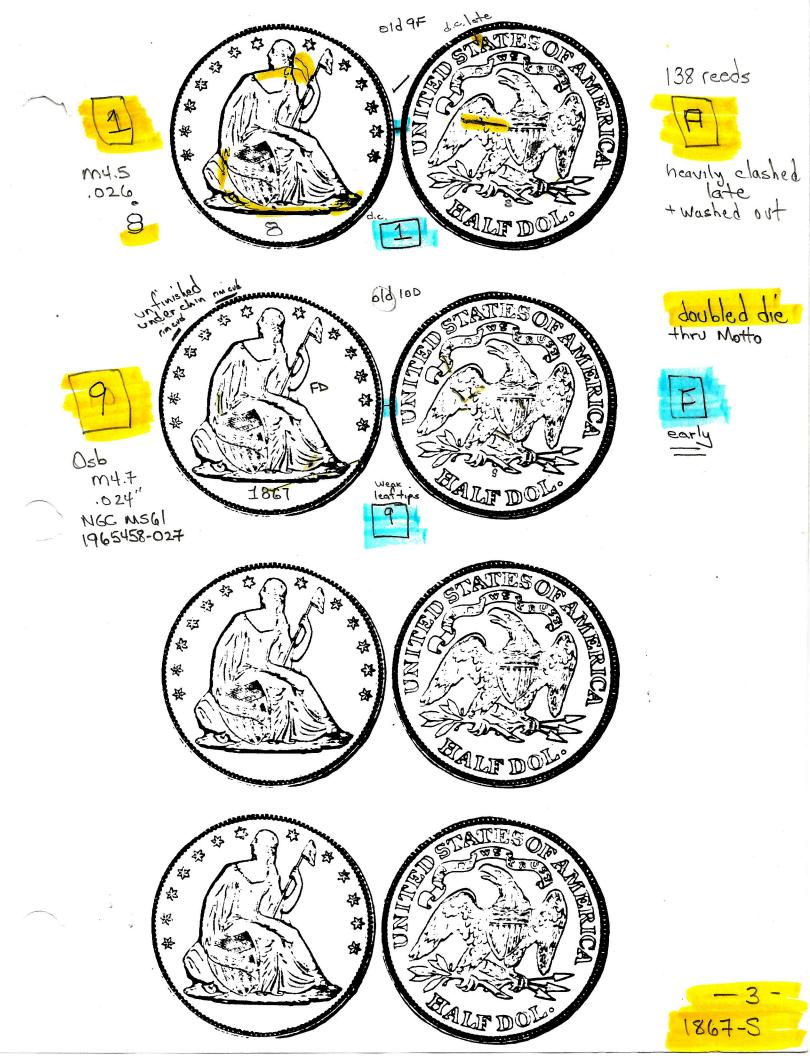


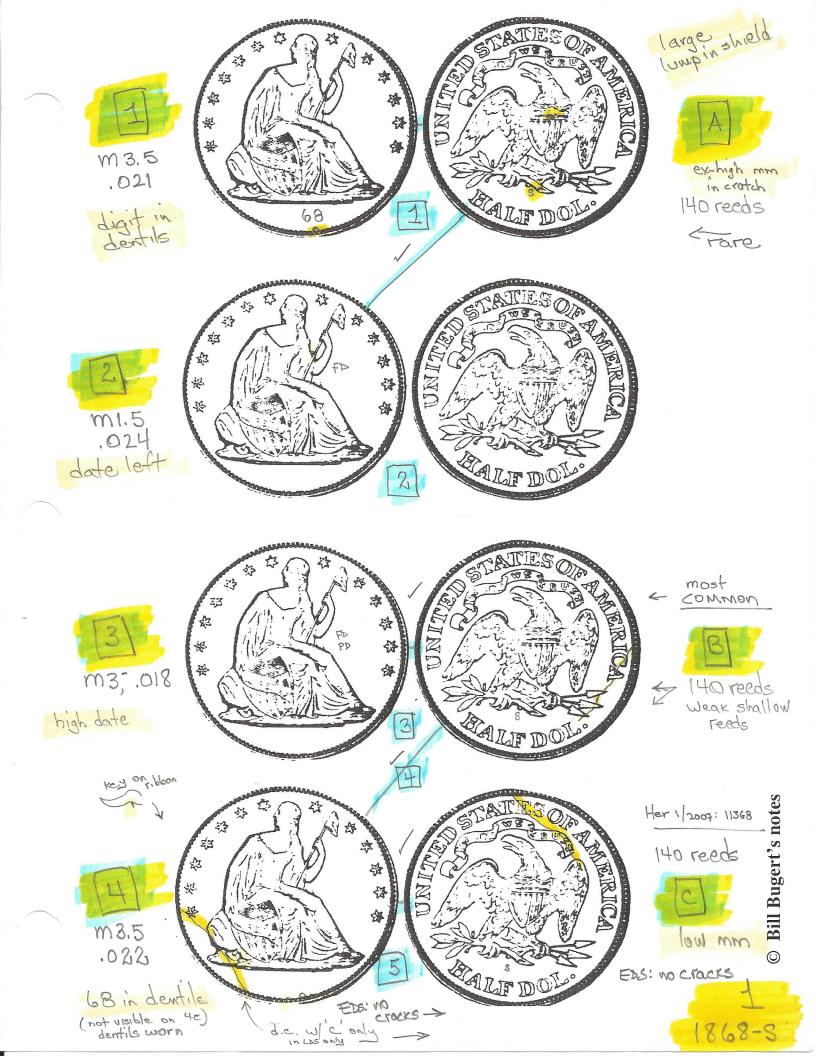






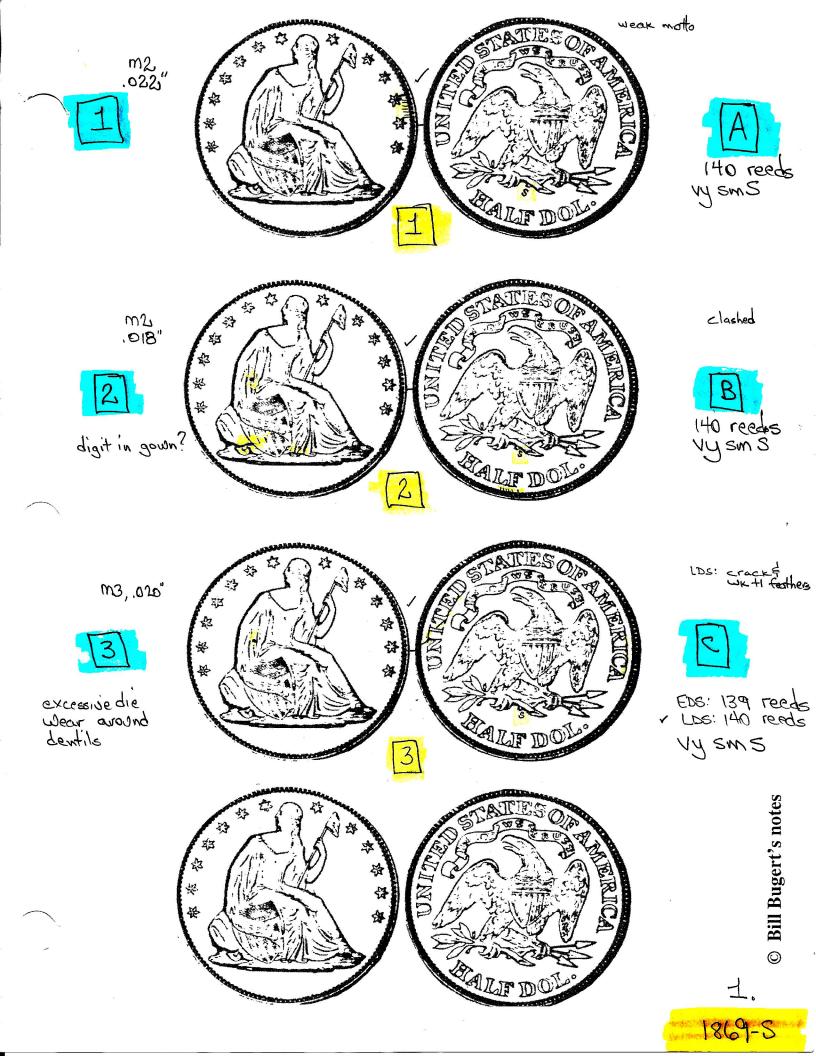


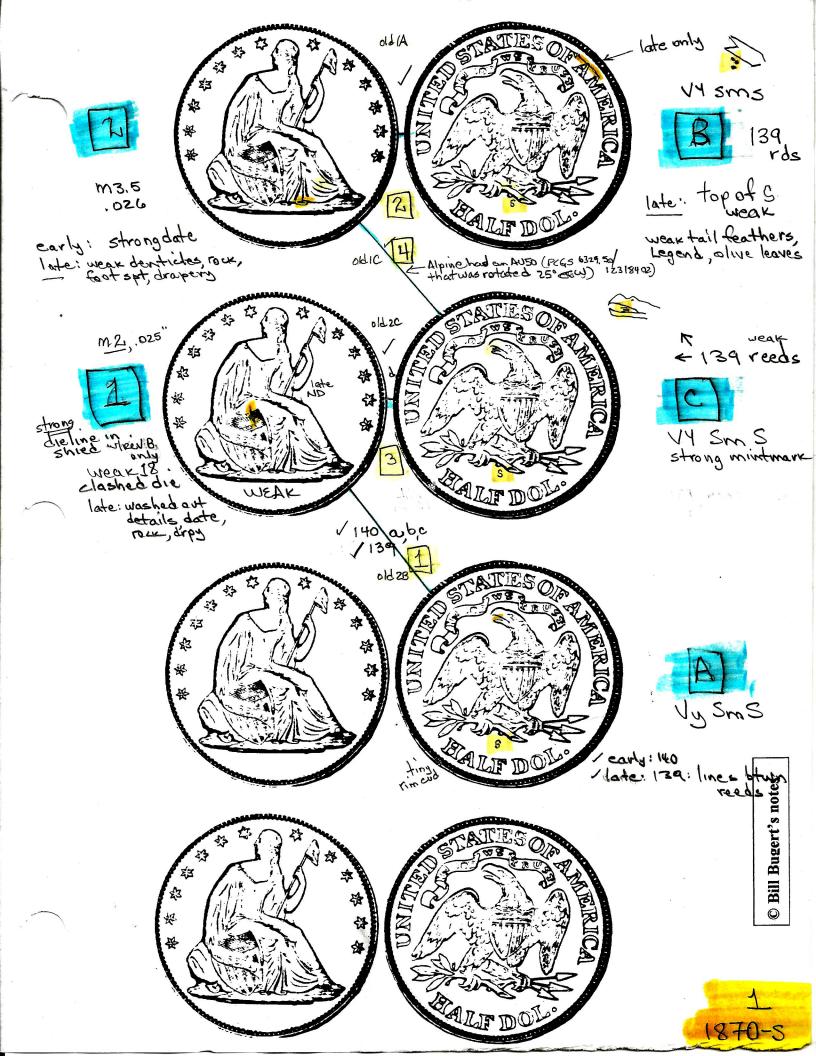


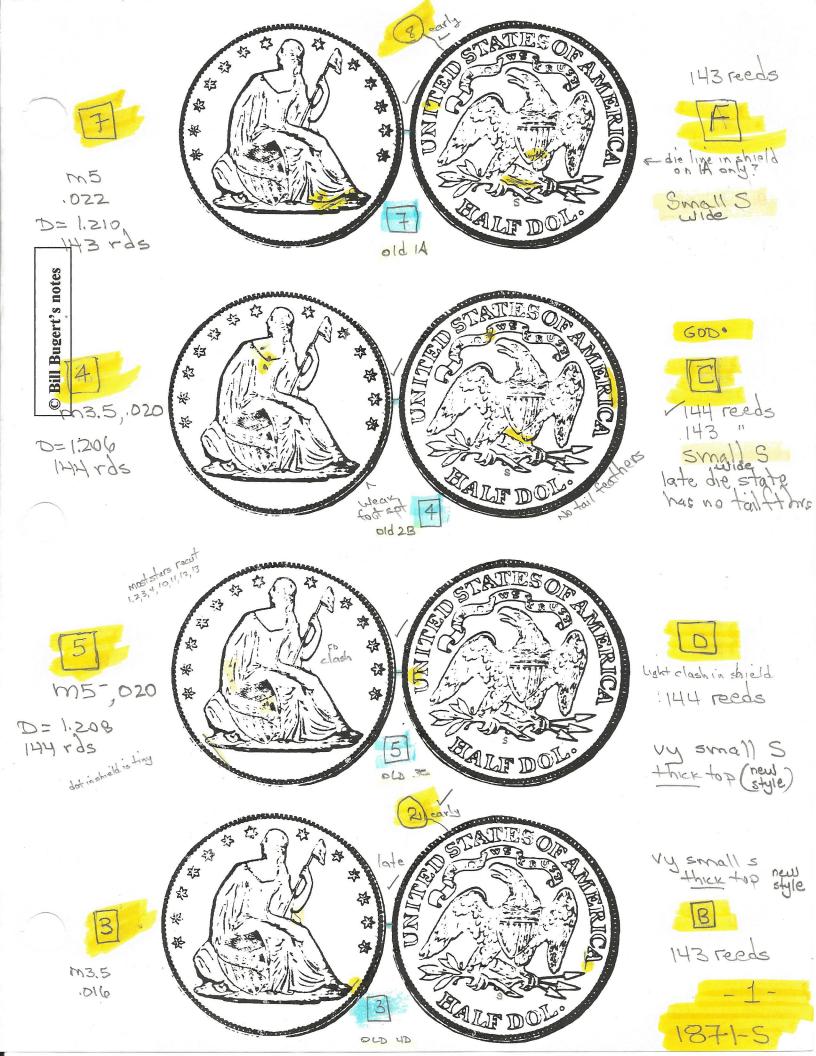


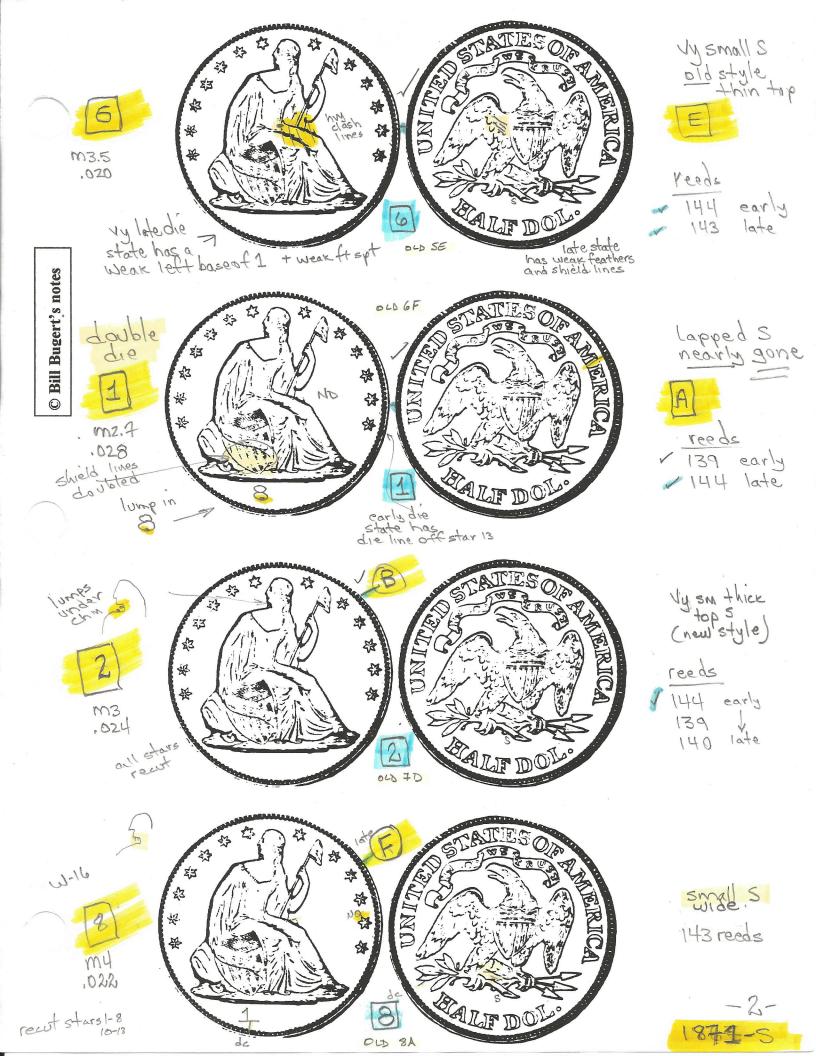


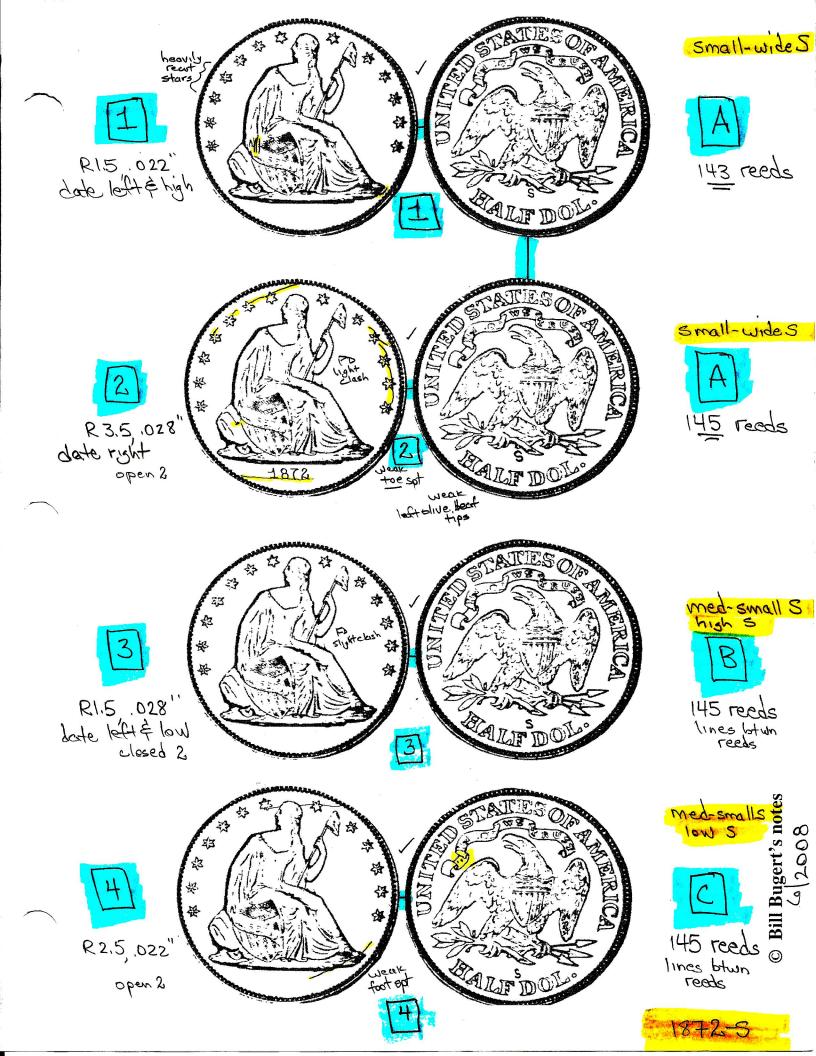
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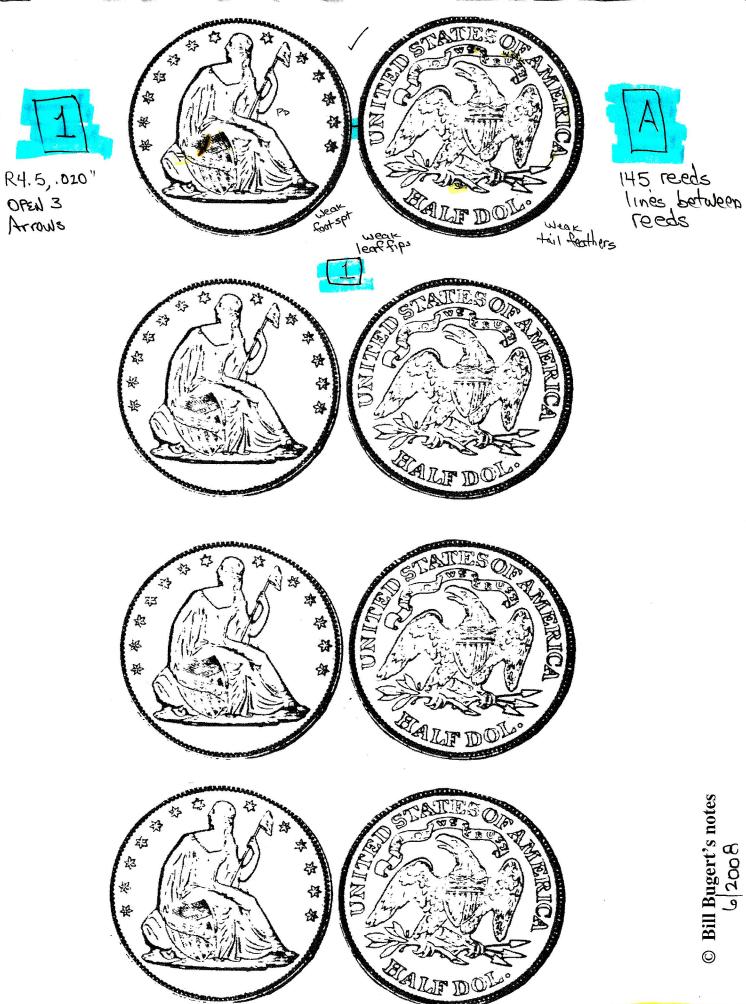


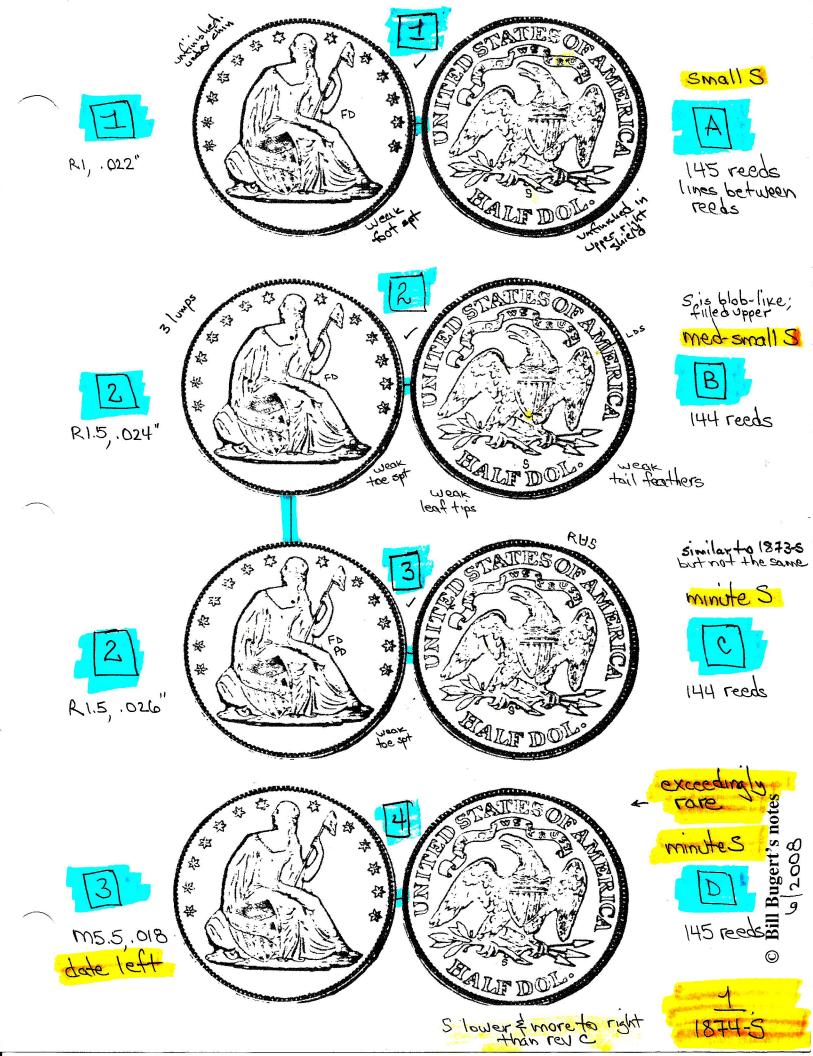


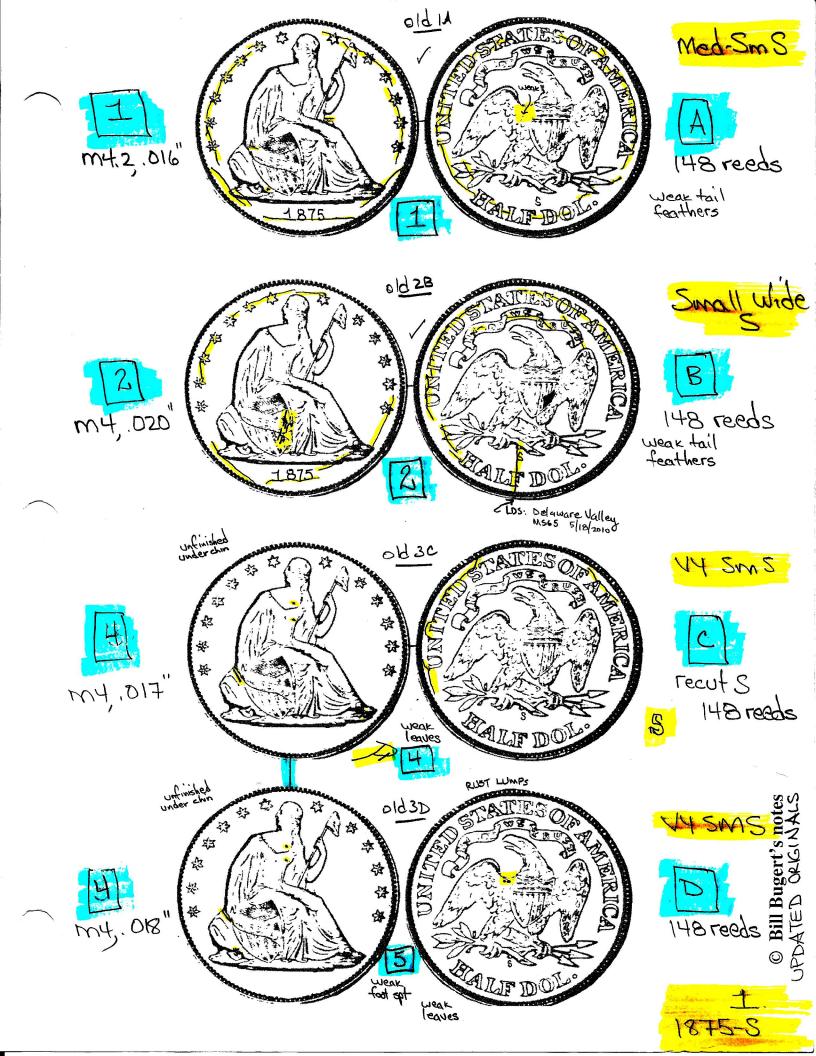


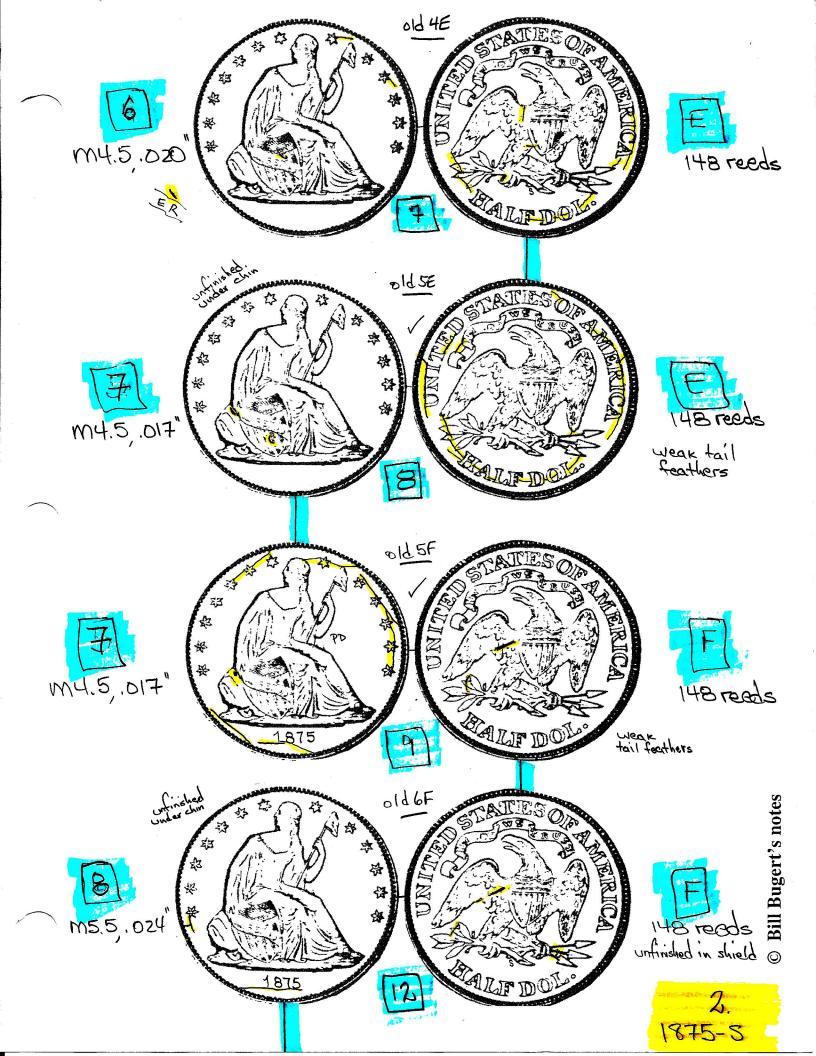


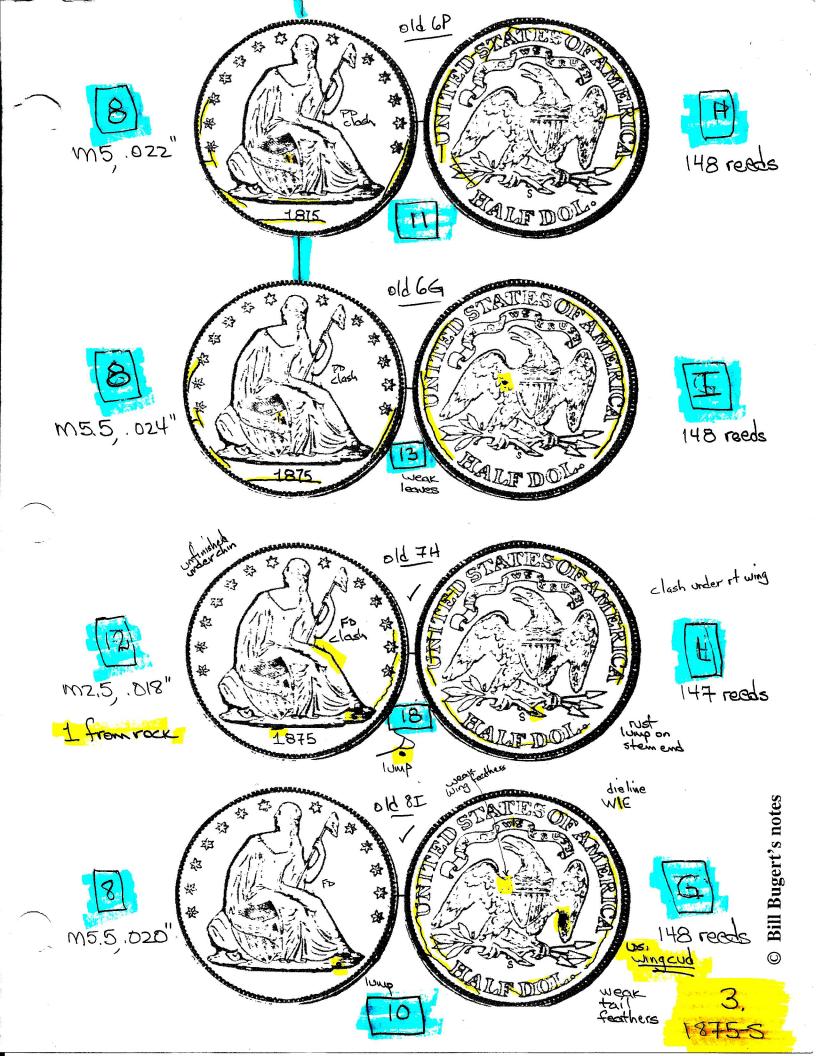


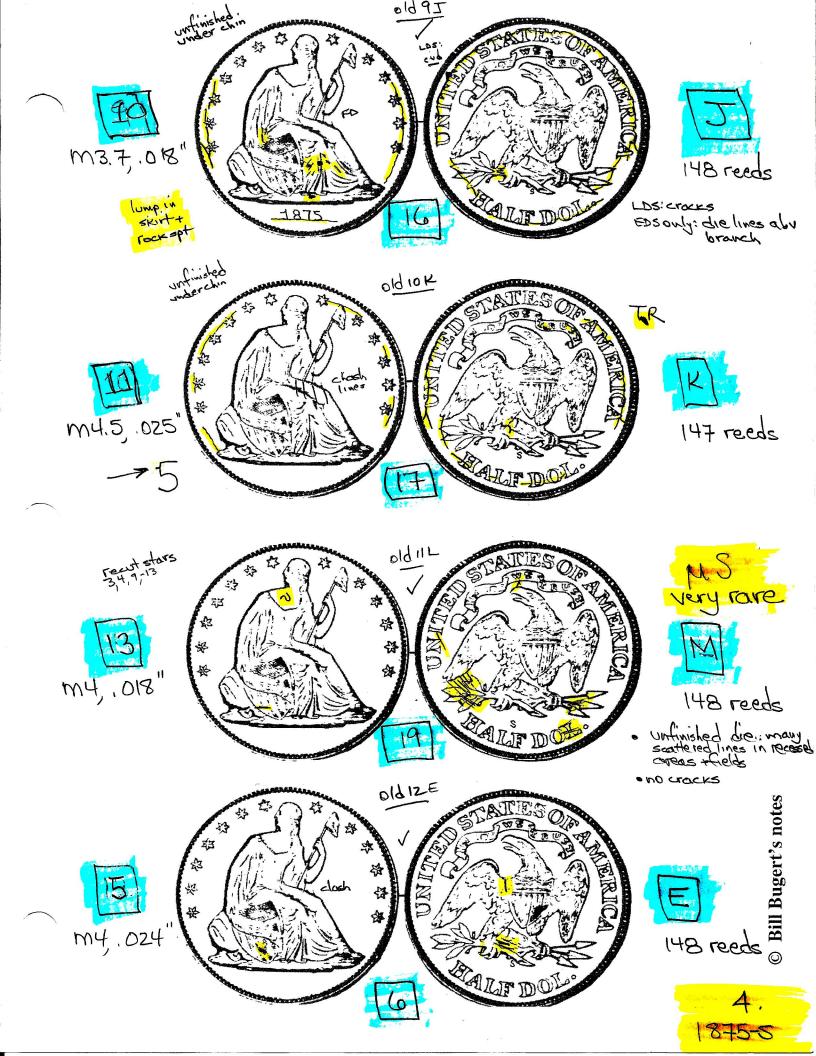


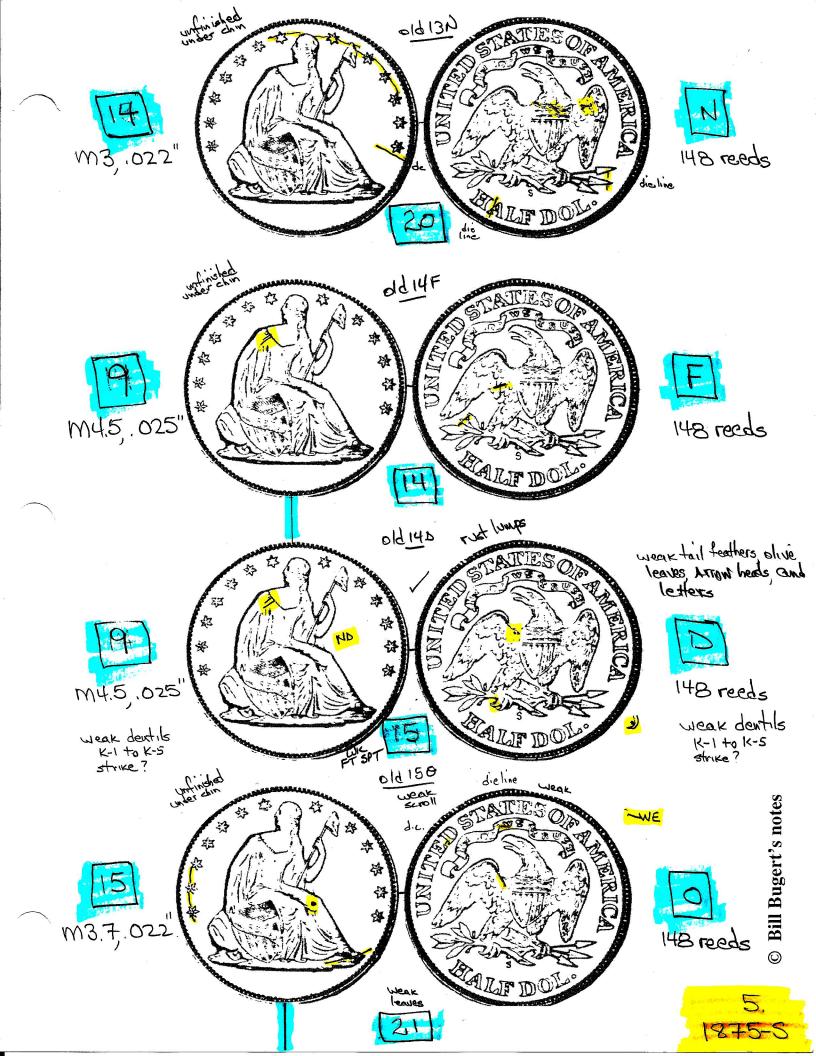


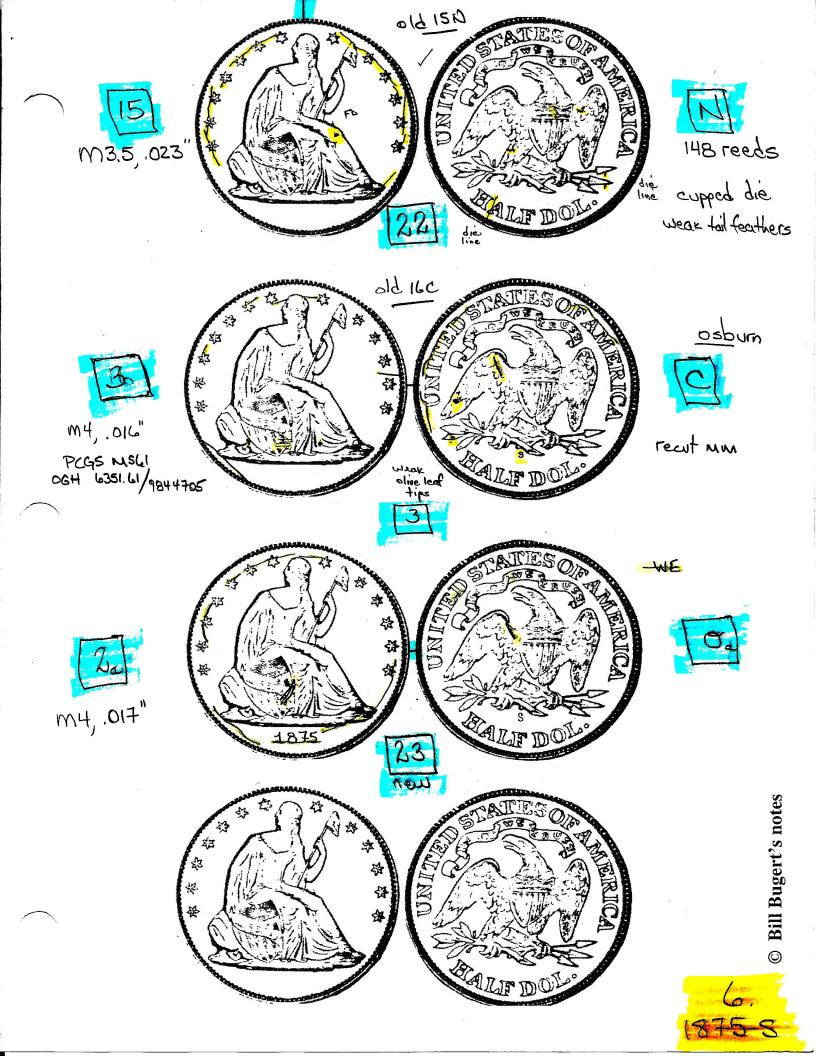


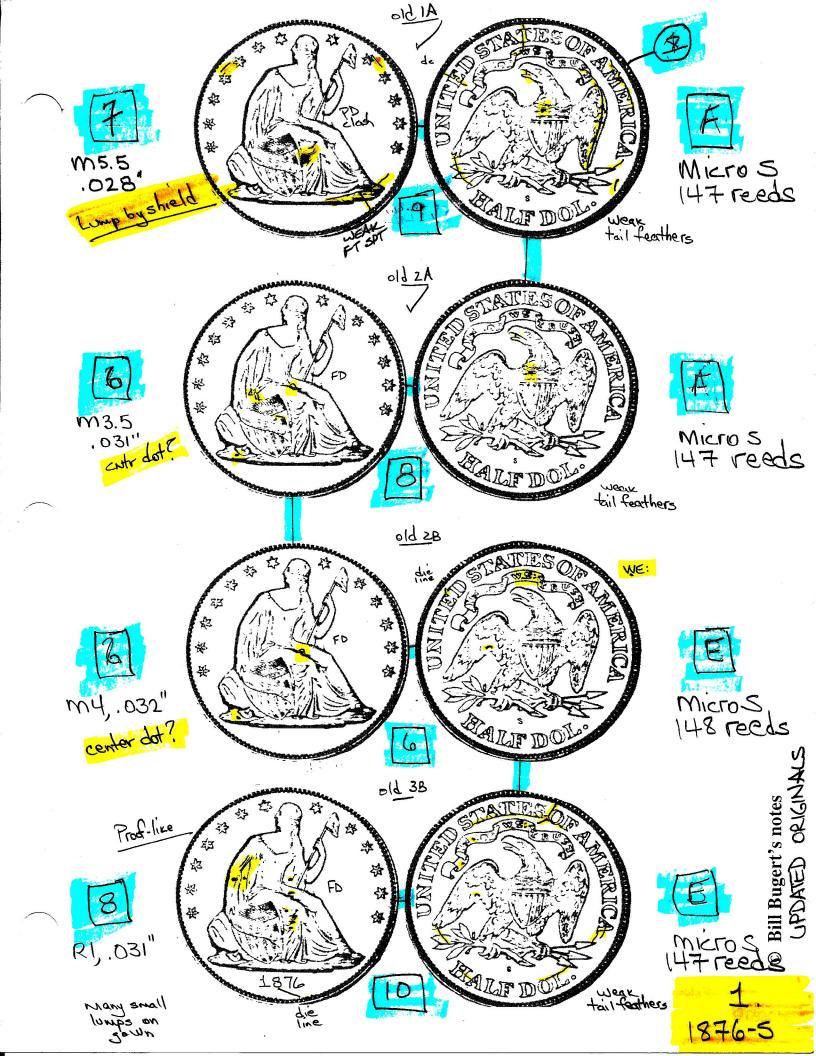


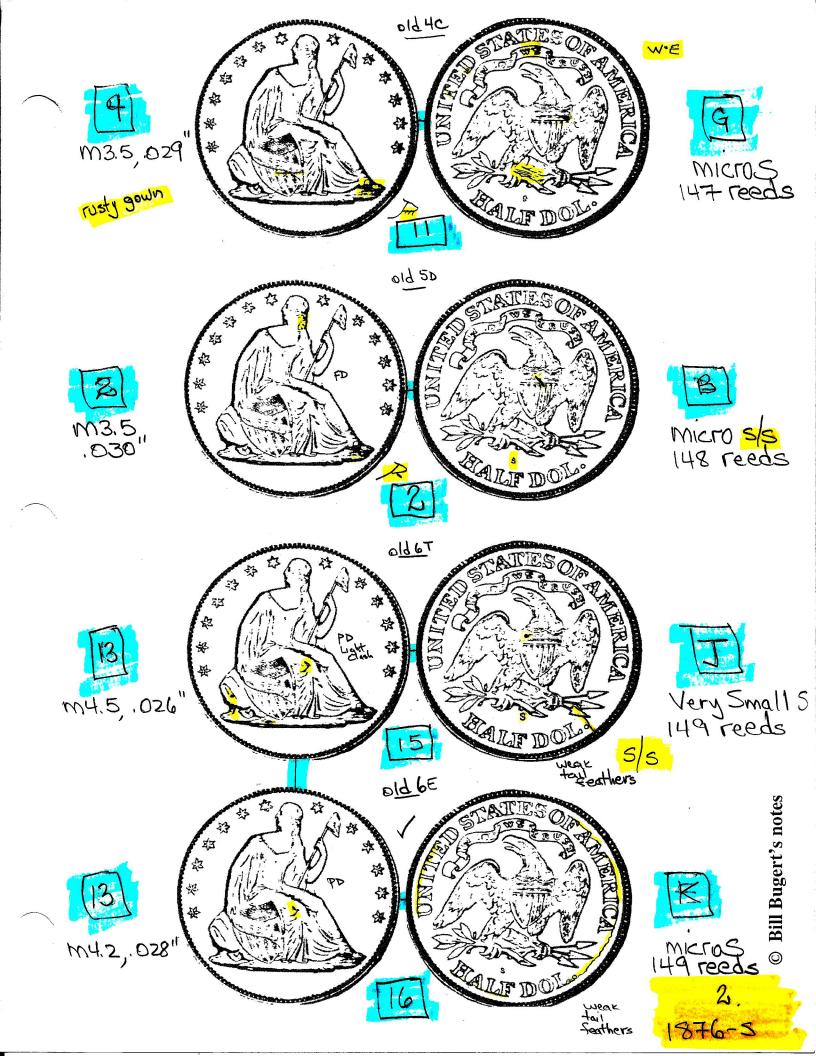


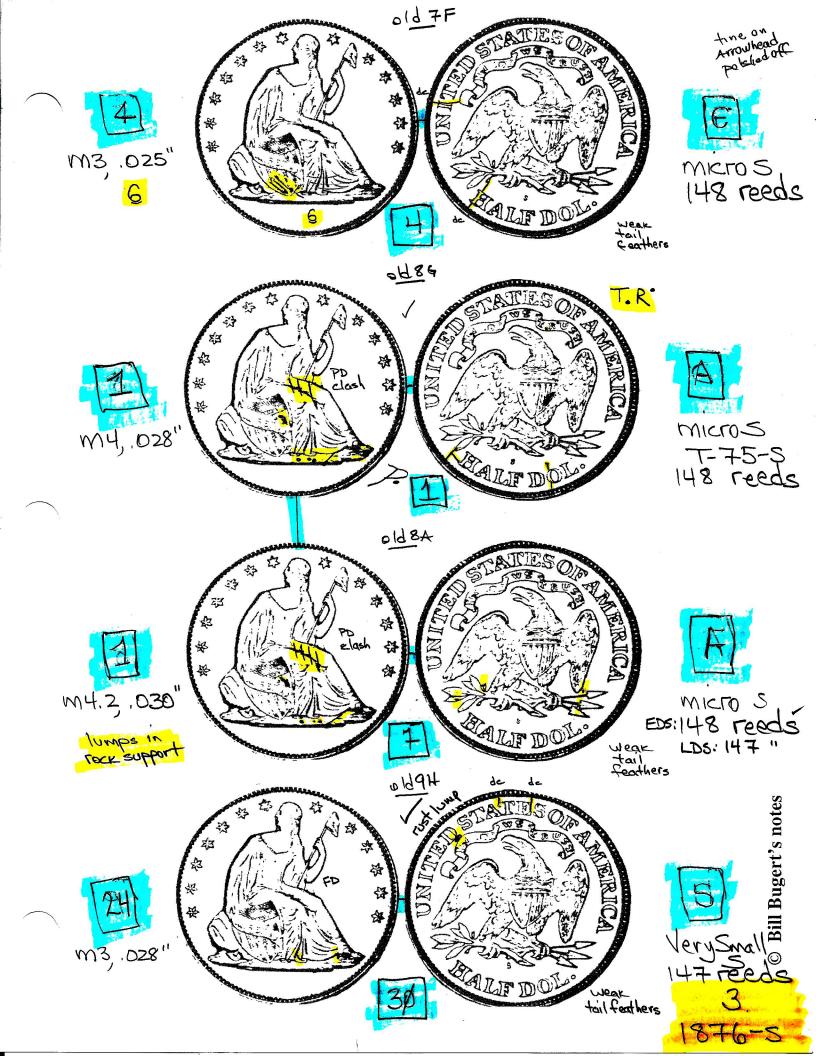


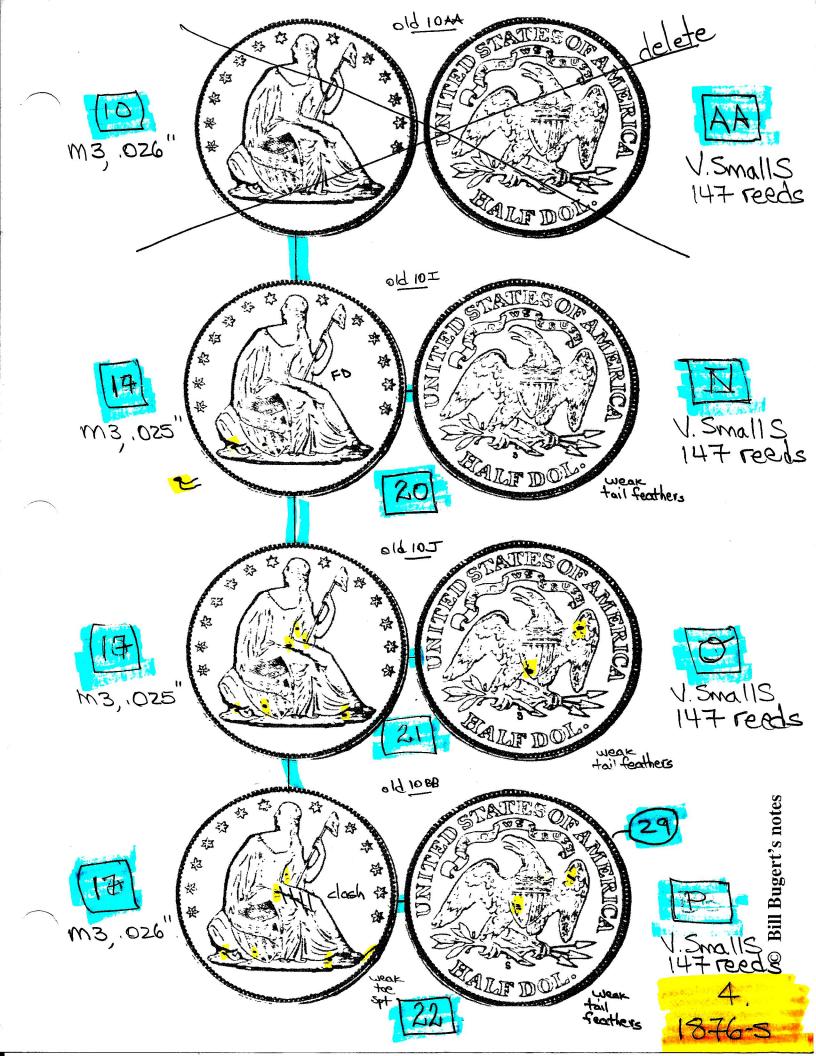


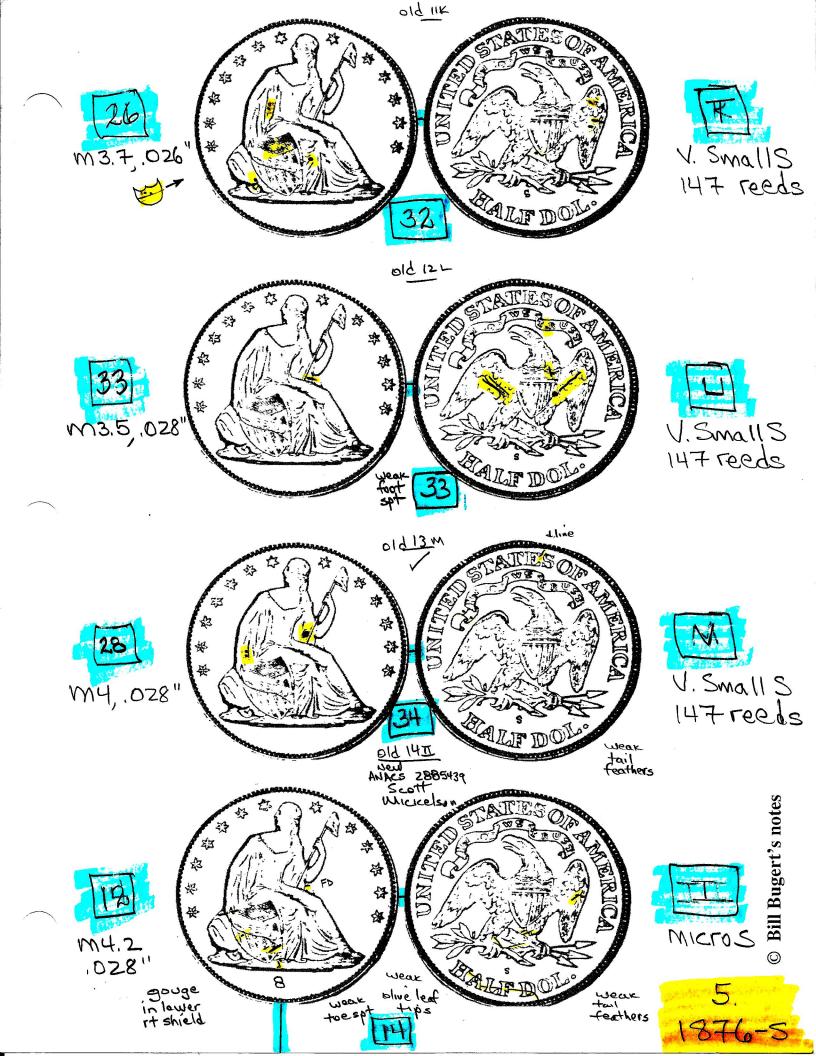


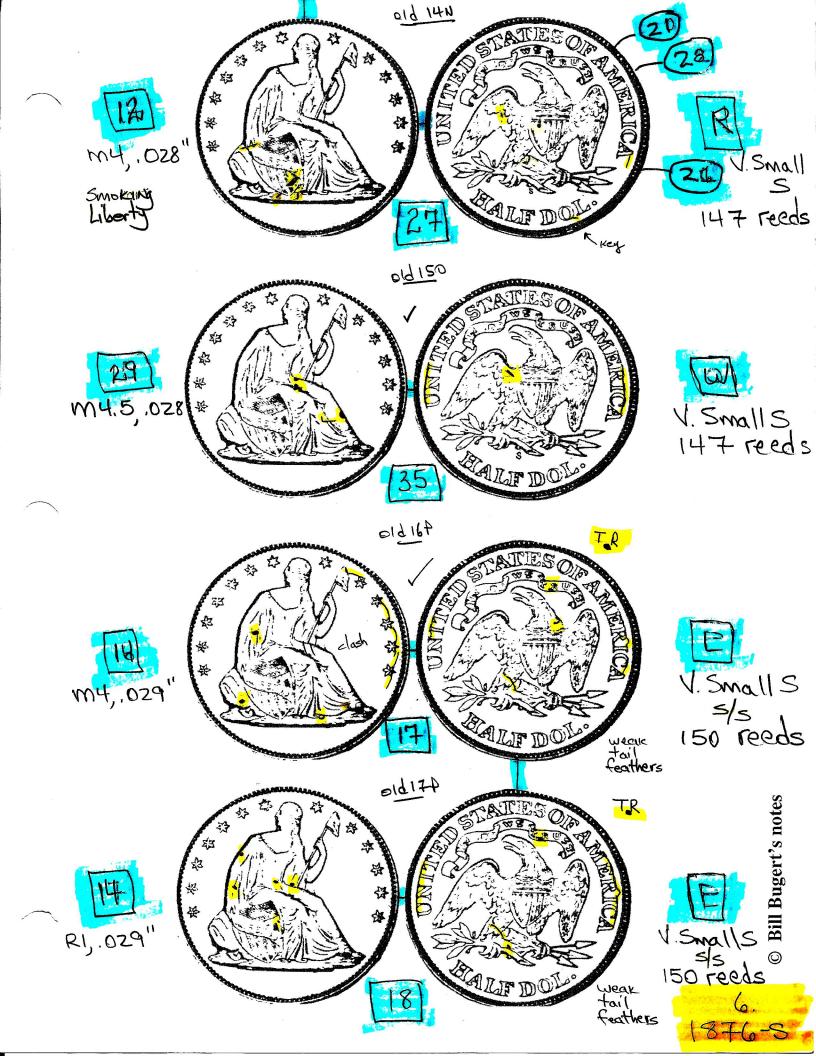


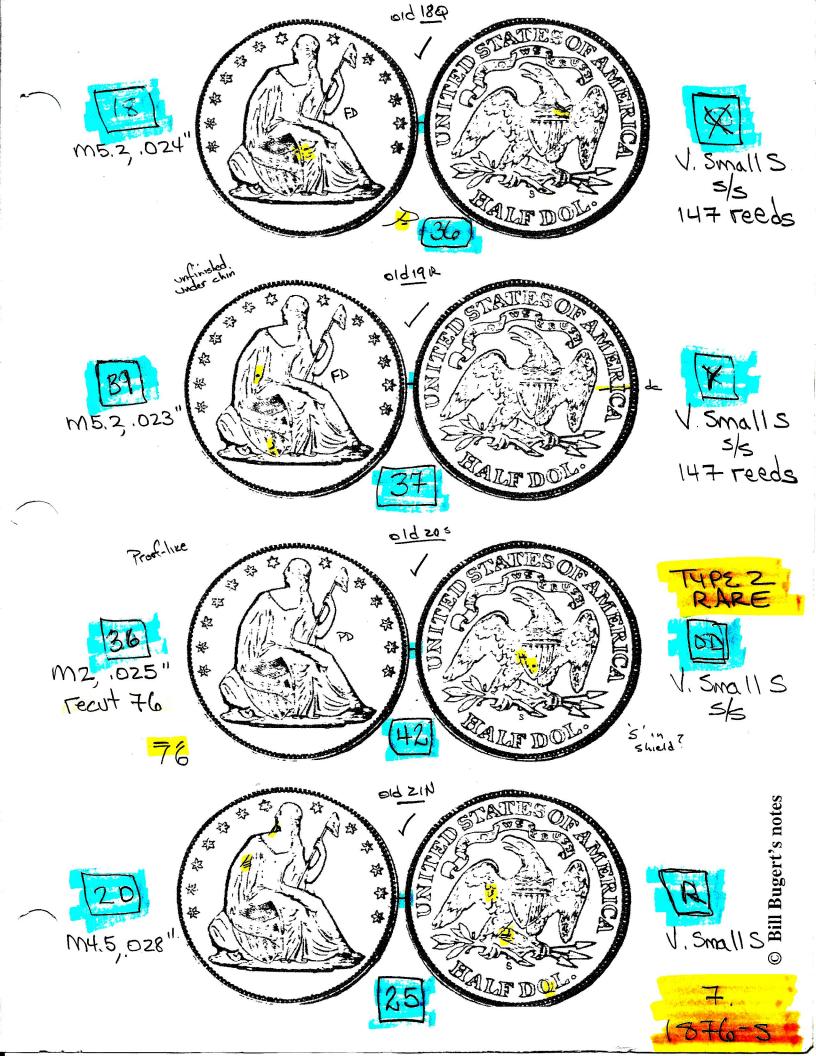


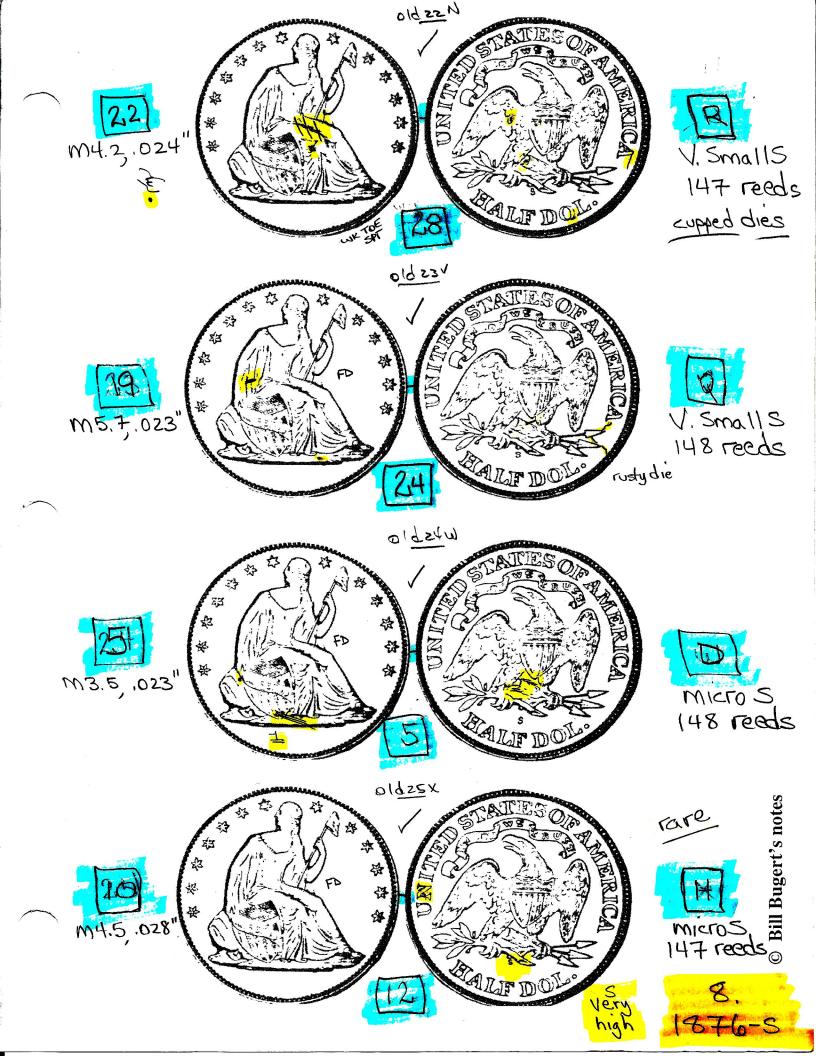


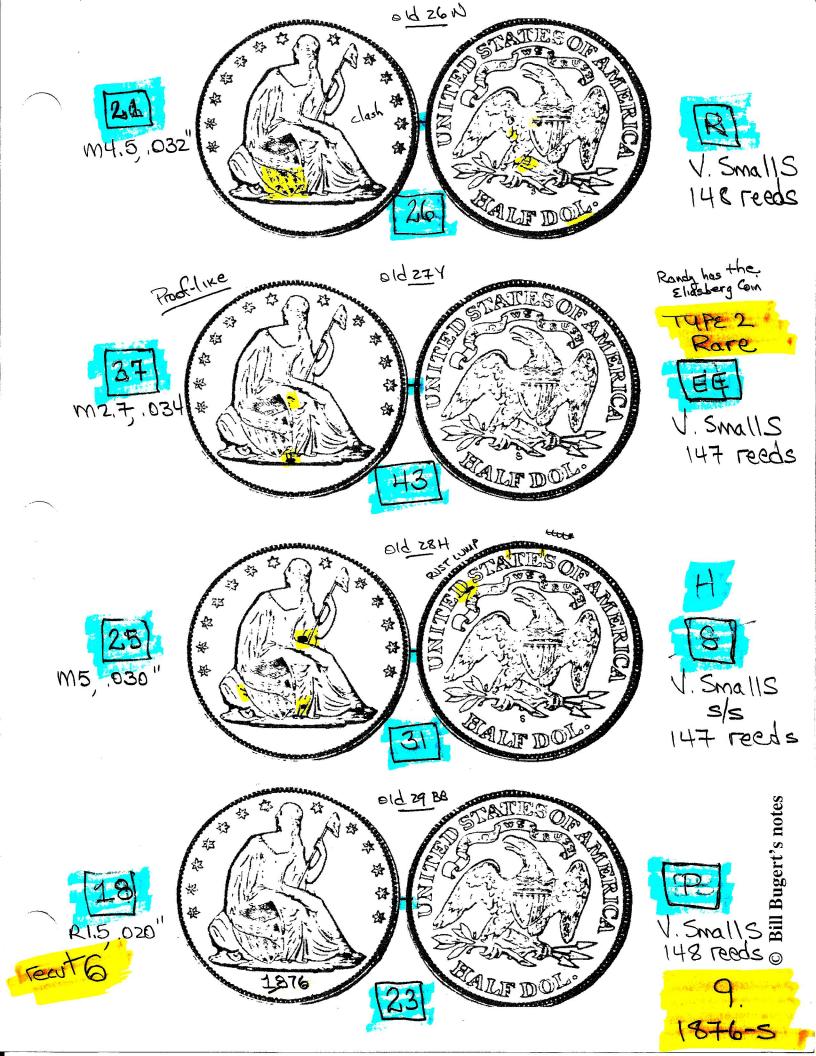


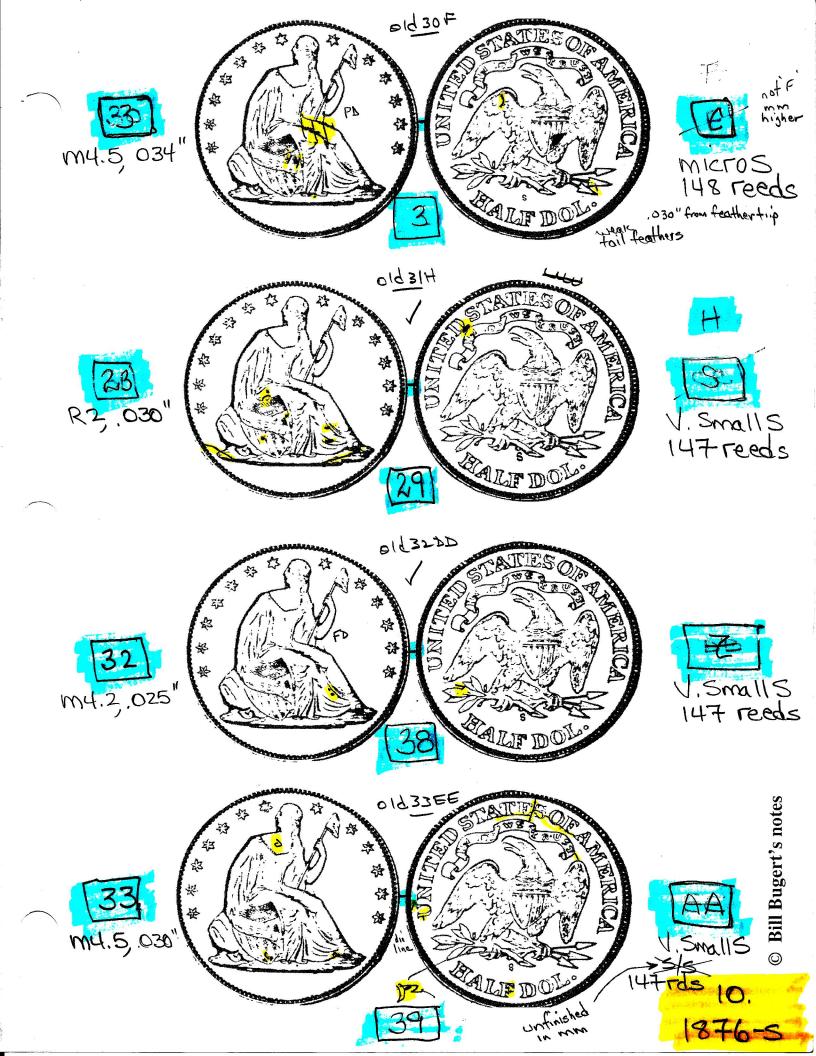


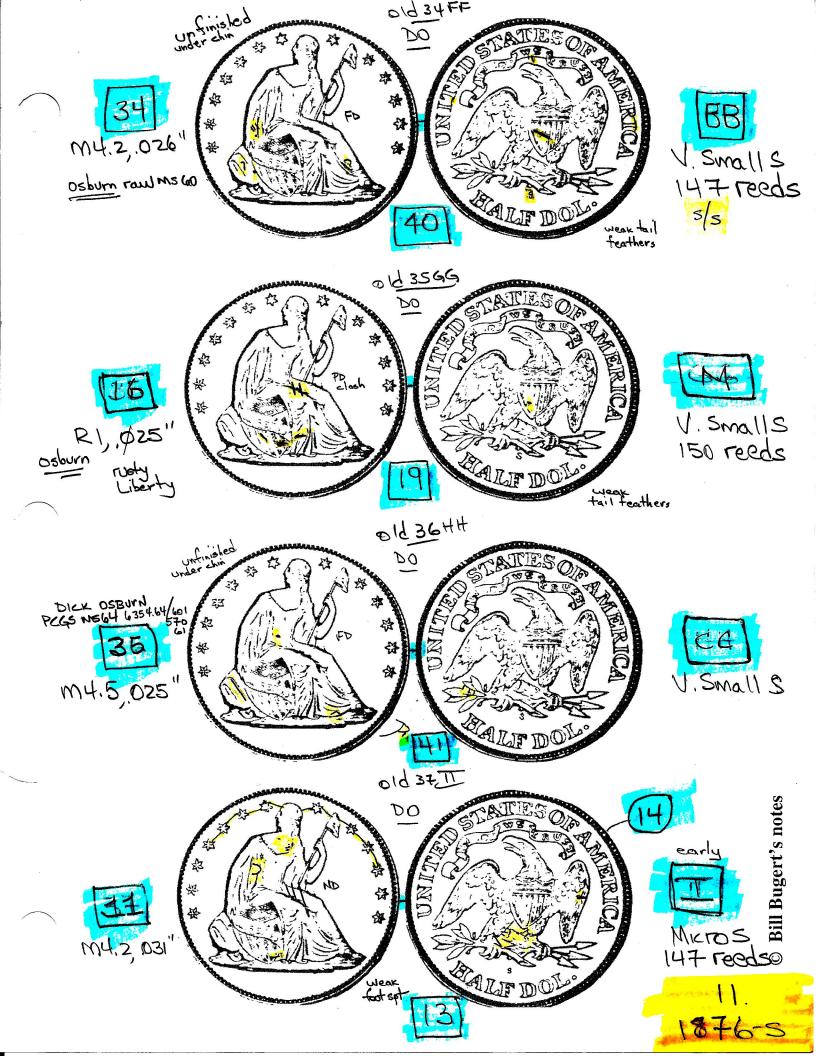


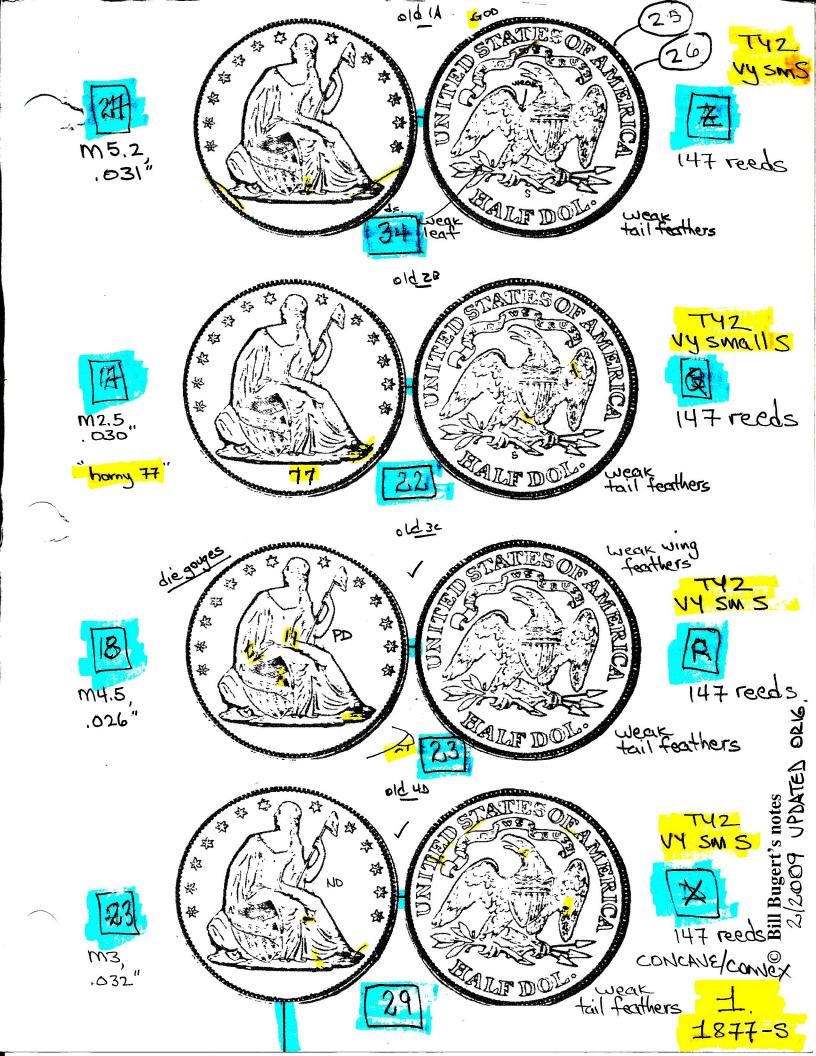


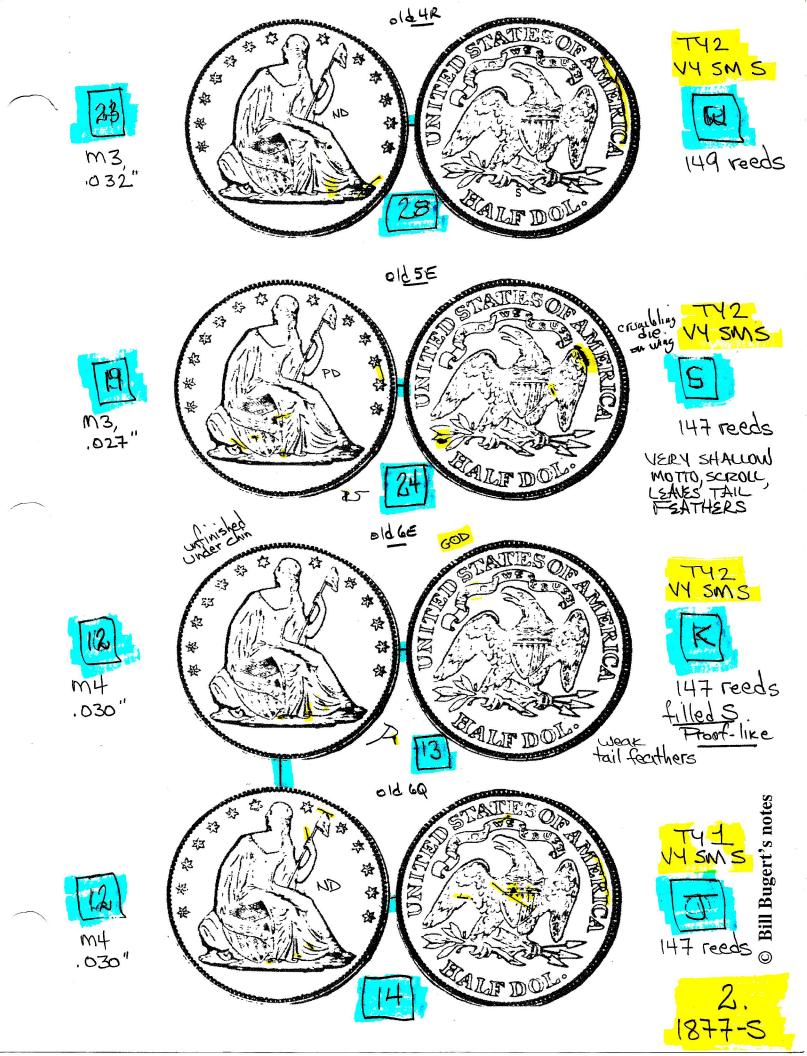


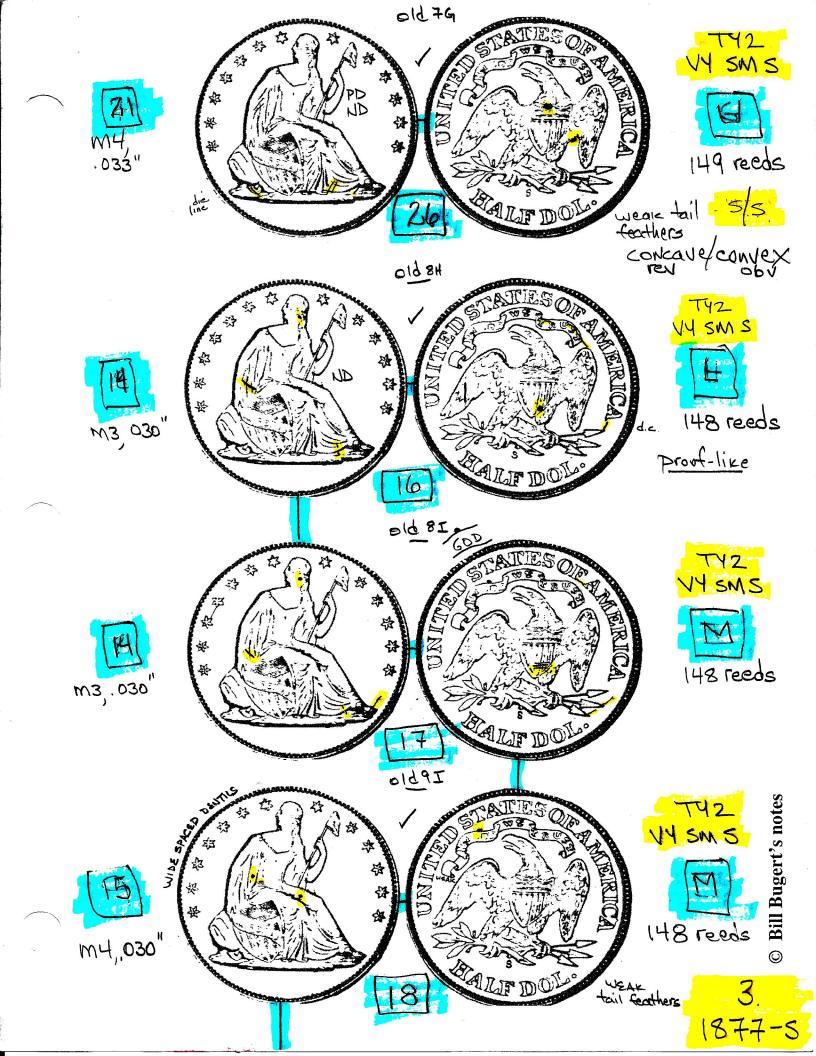


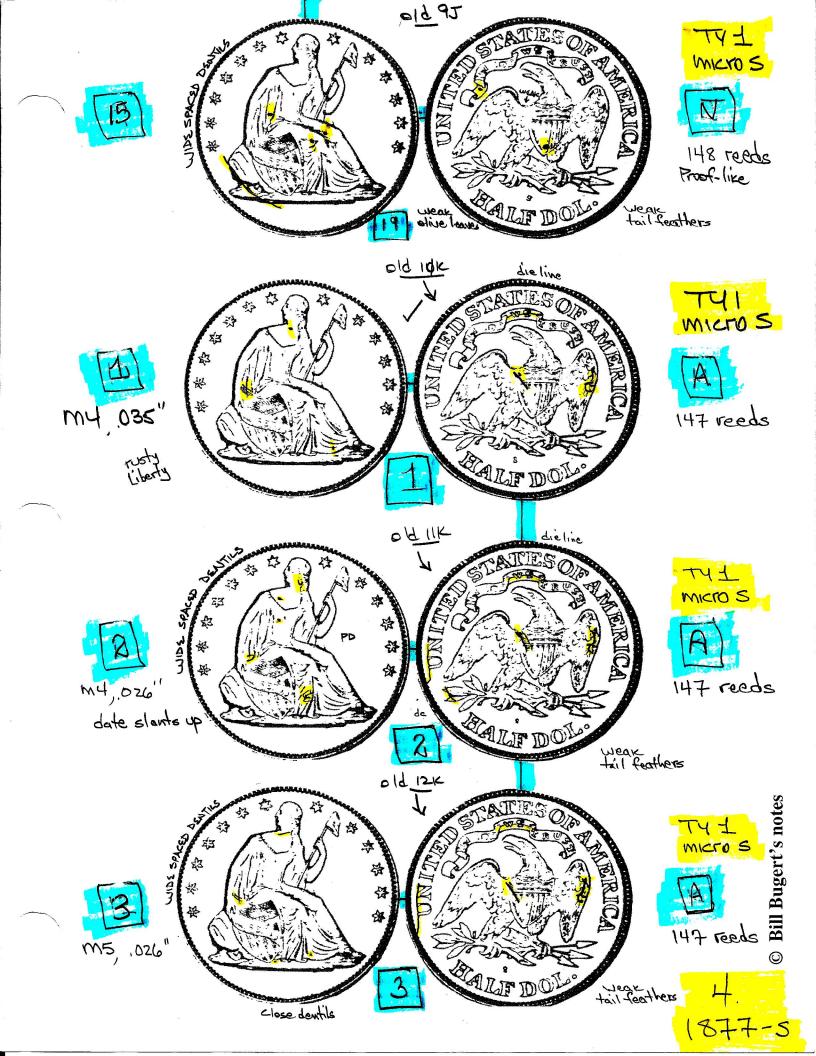


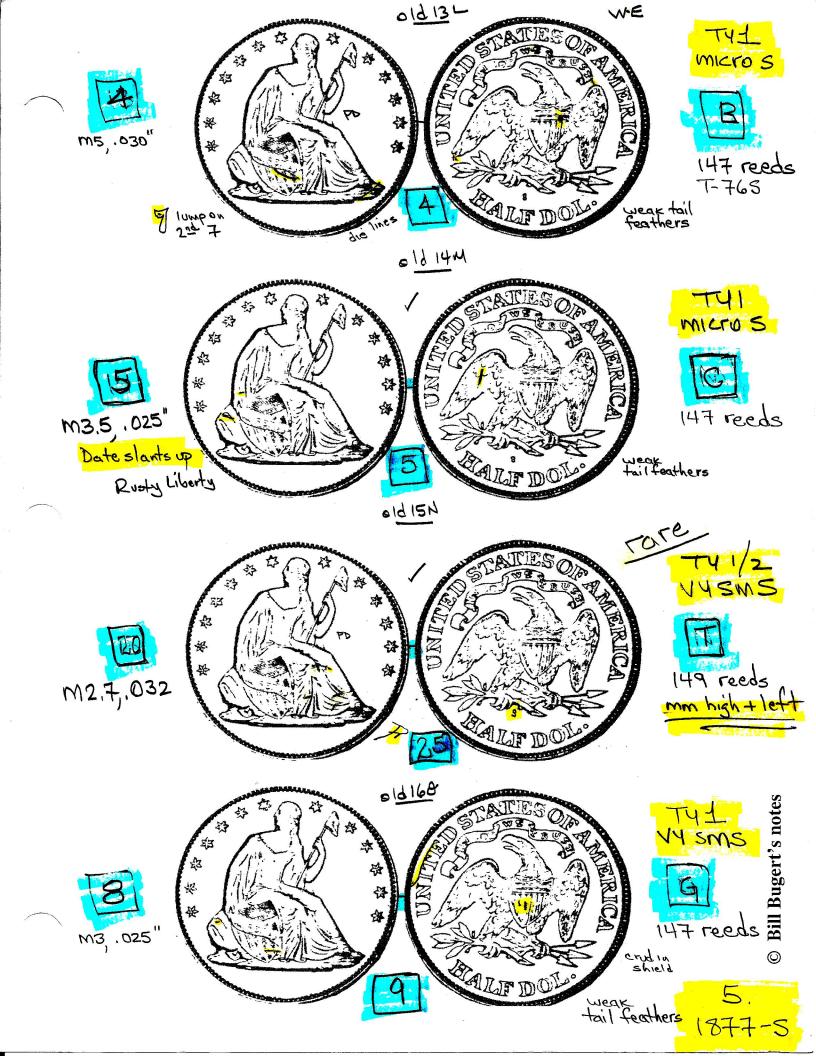


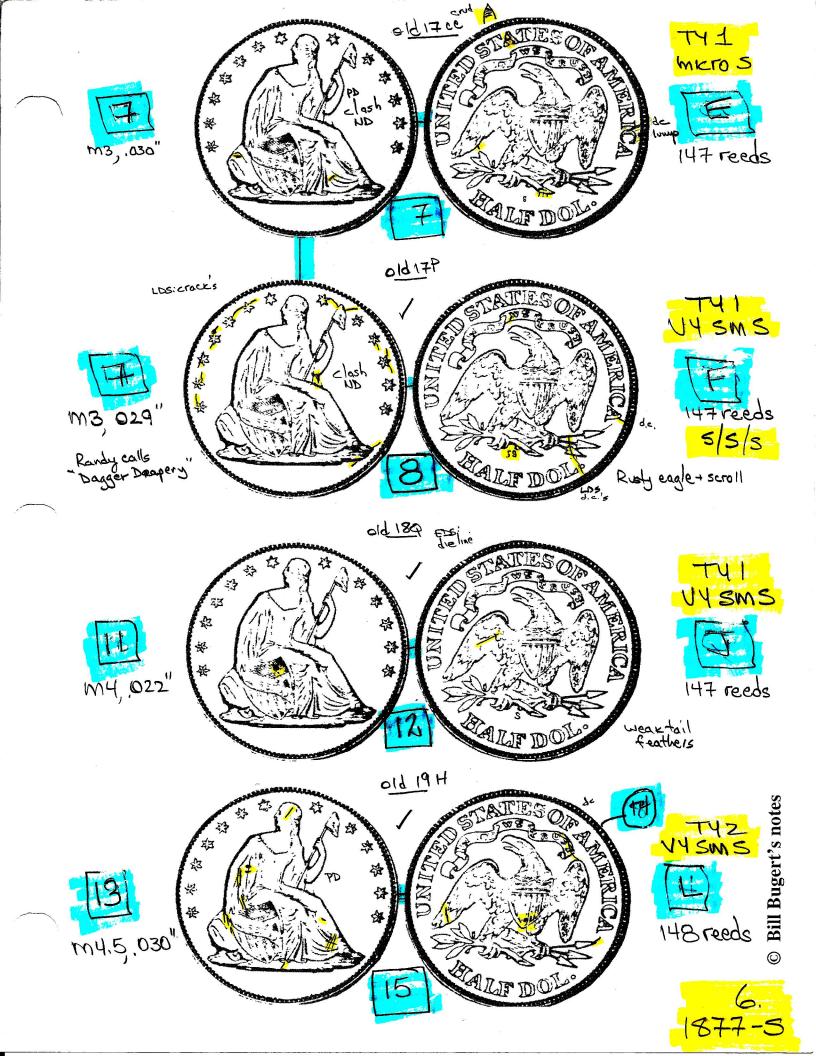


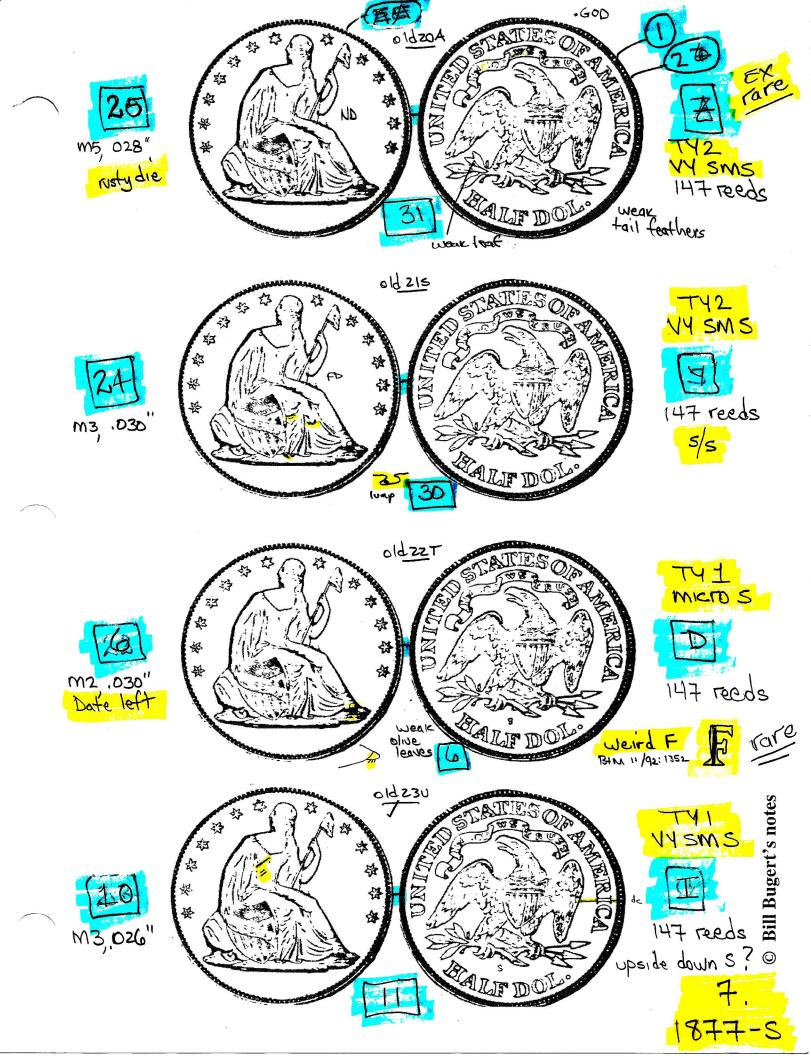


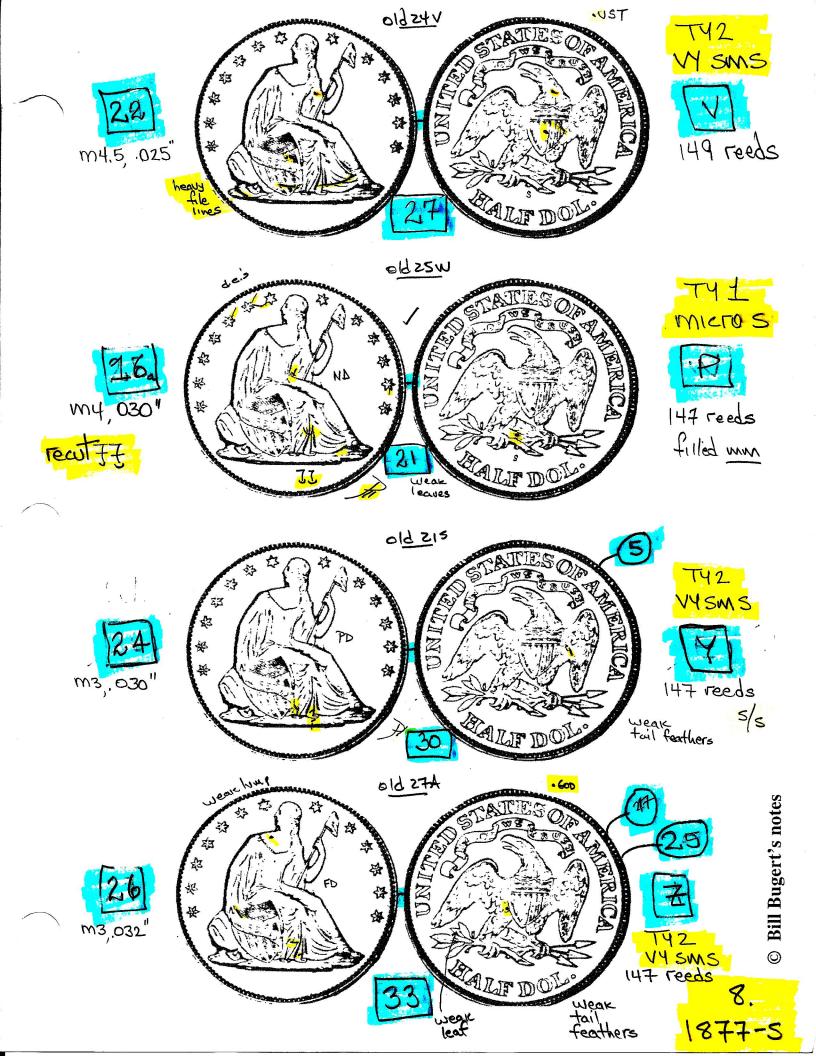


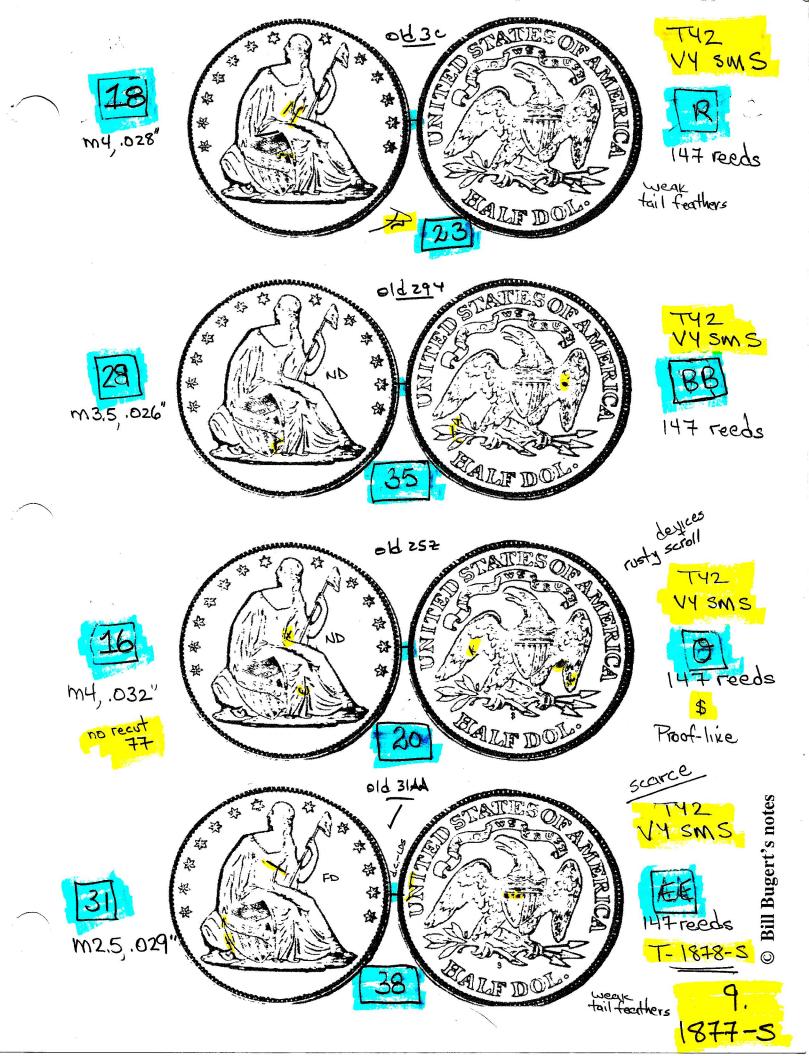


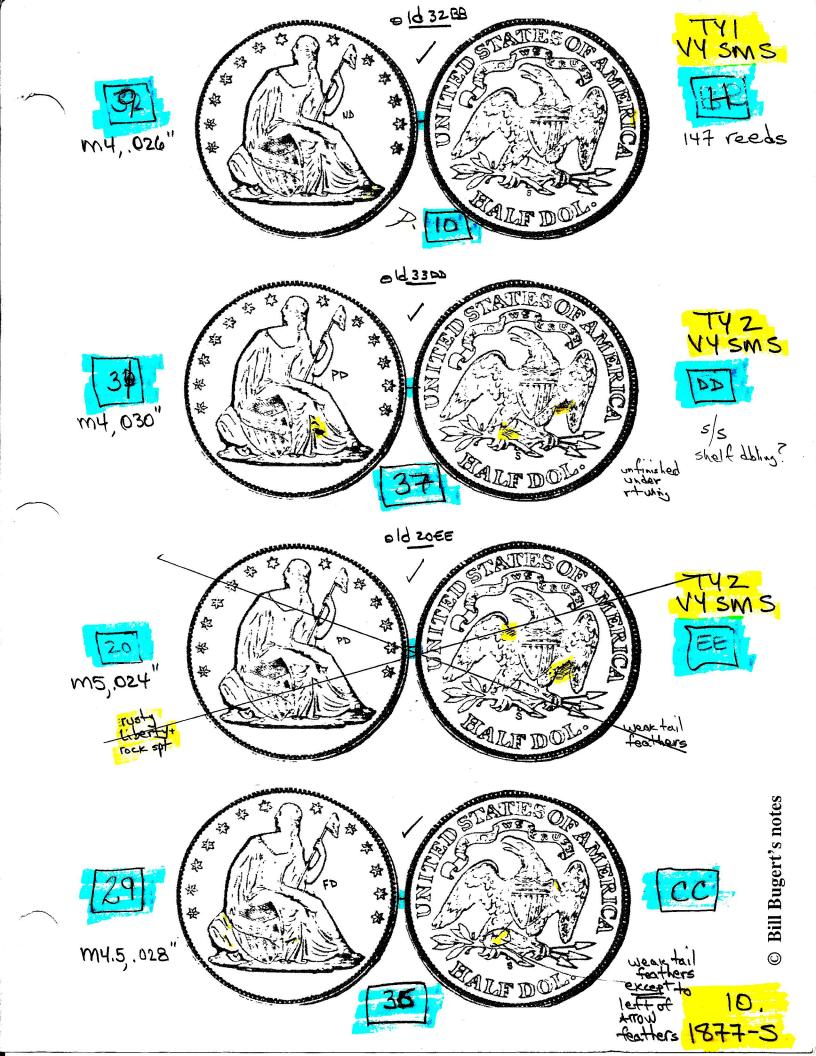


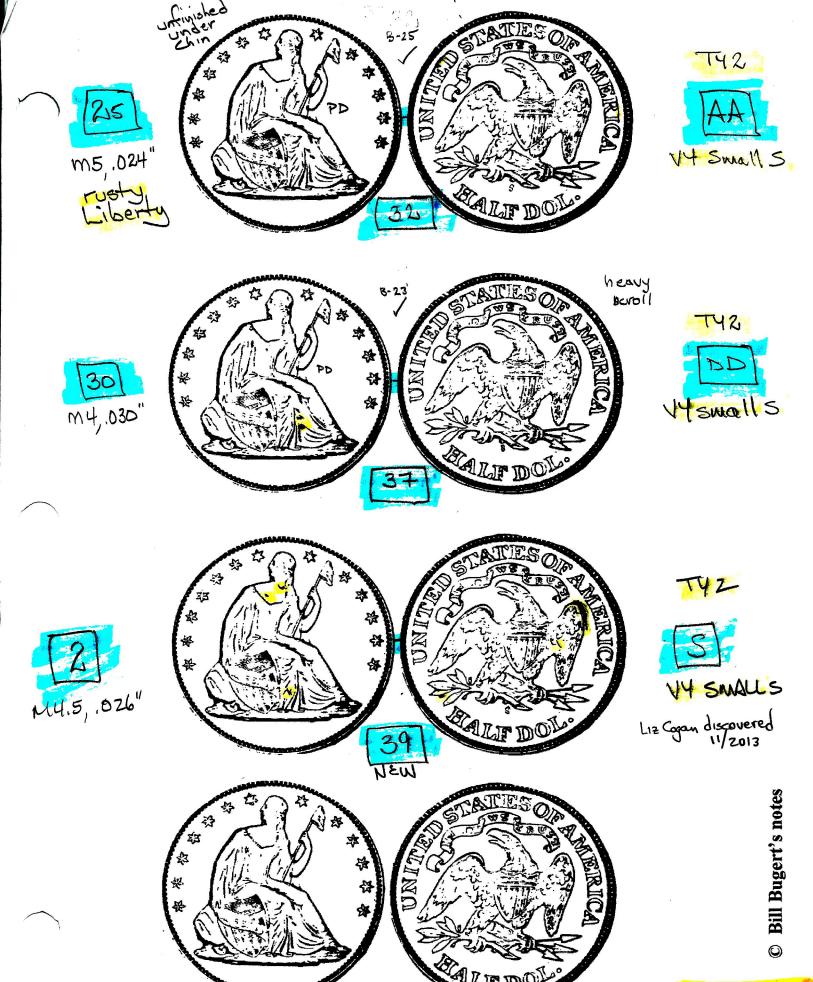








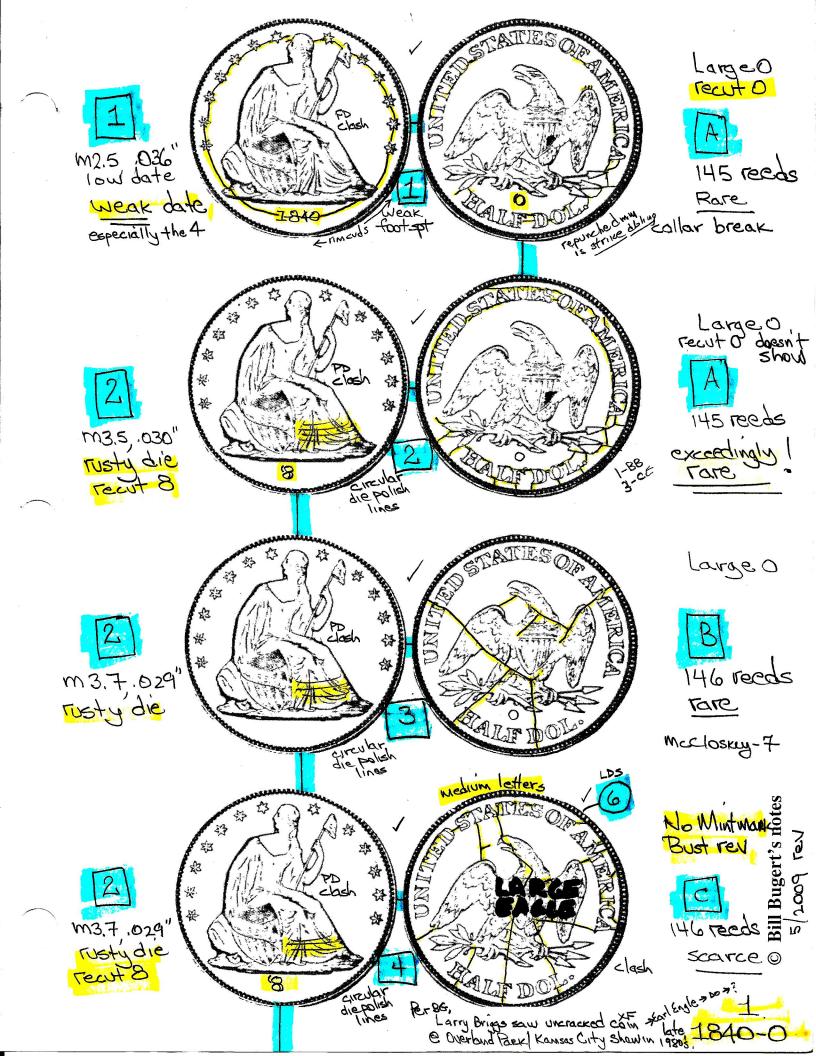


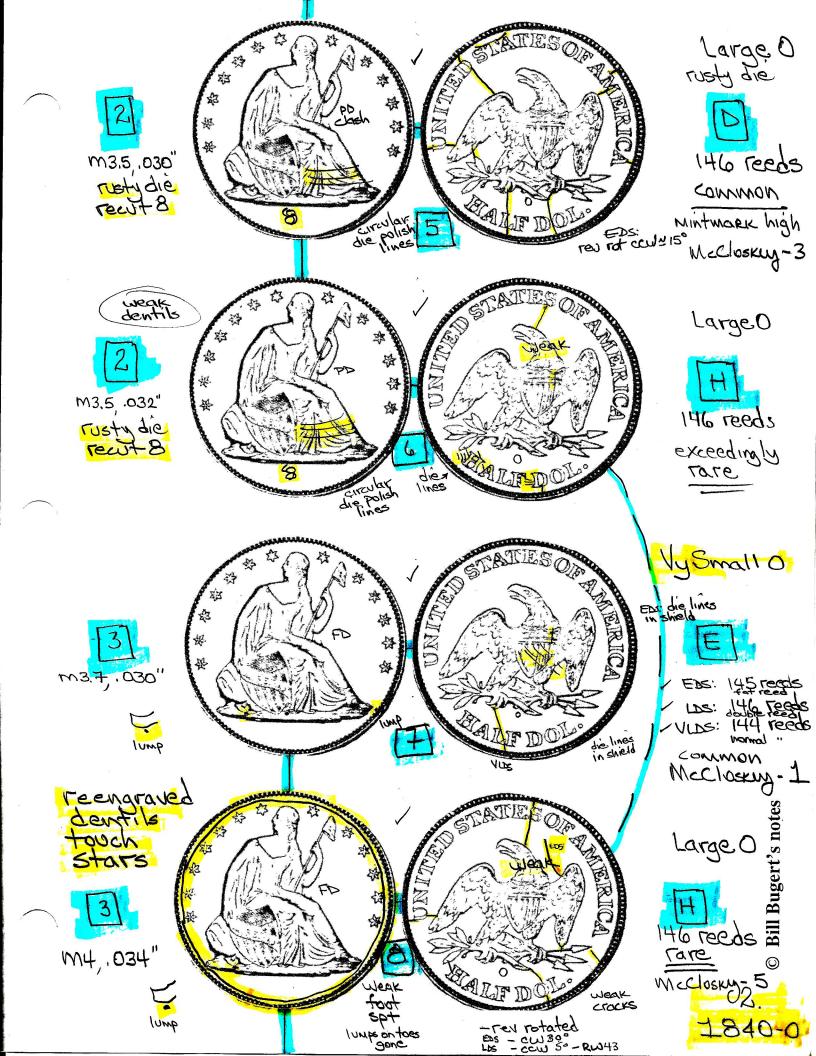


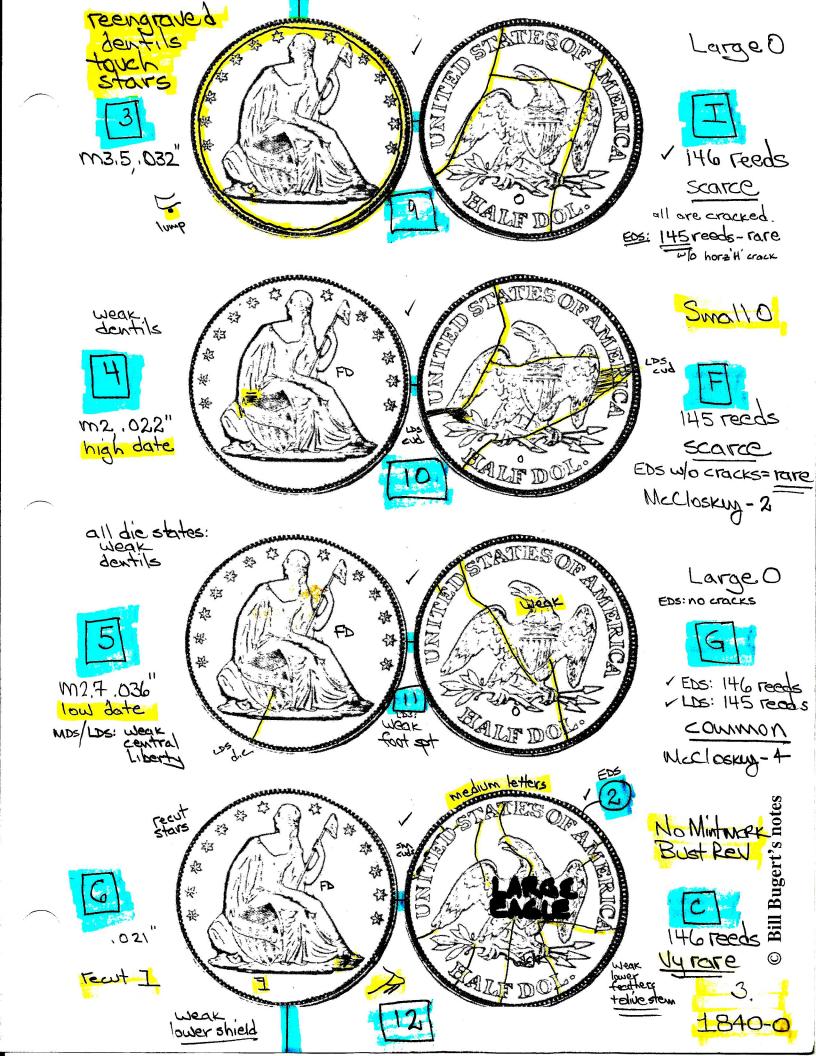
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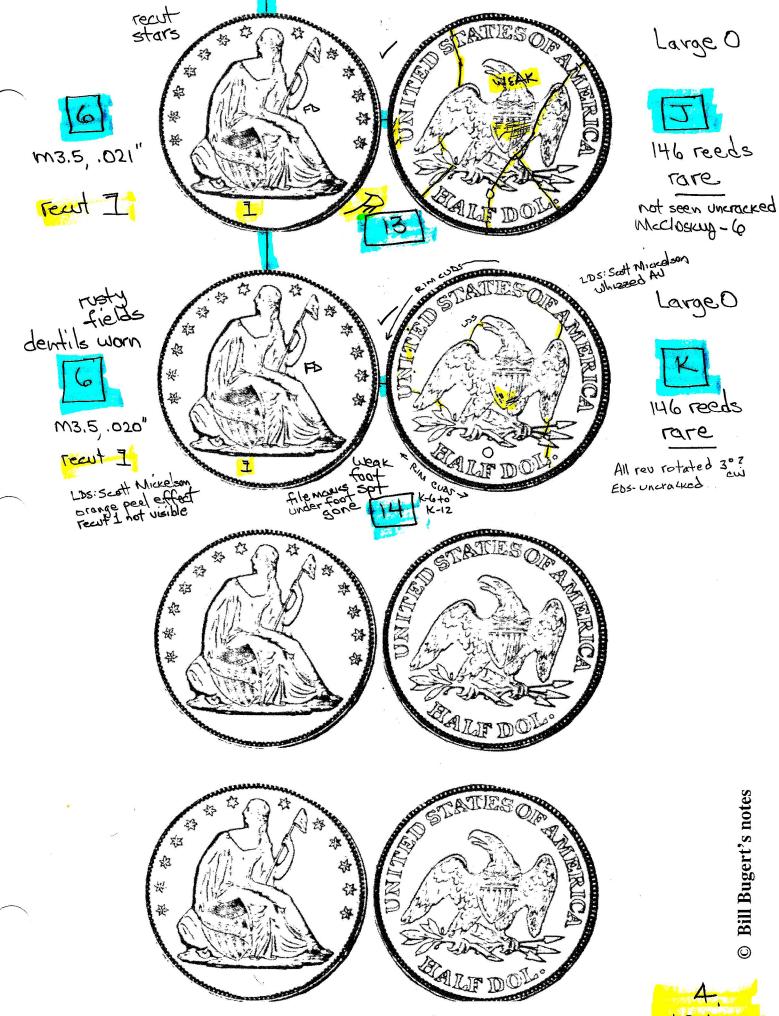
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1878-5

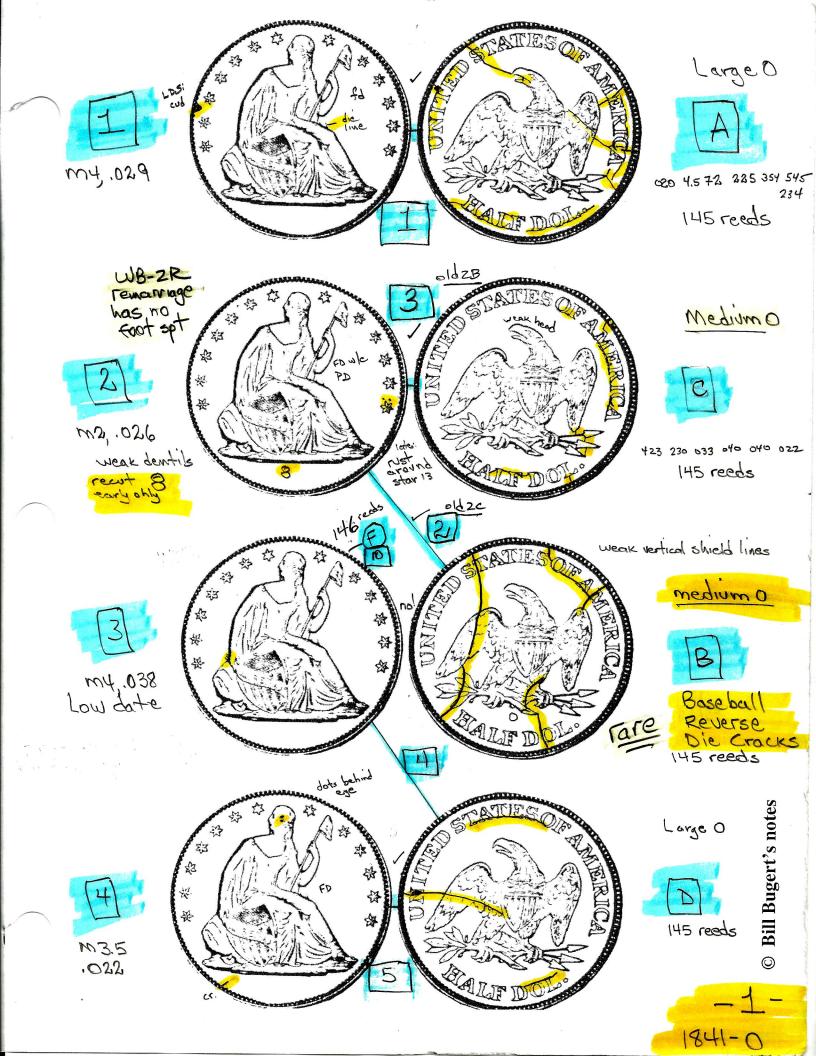


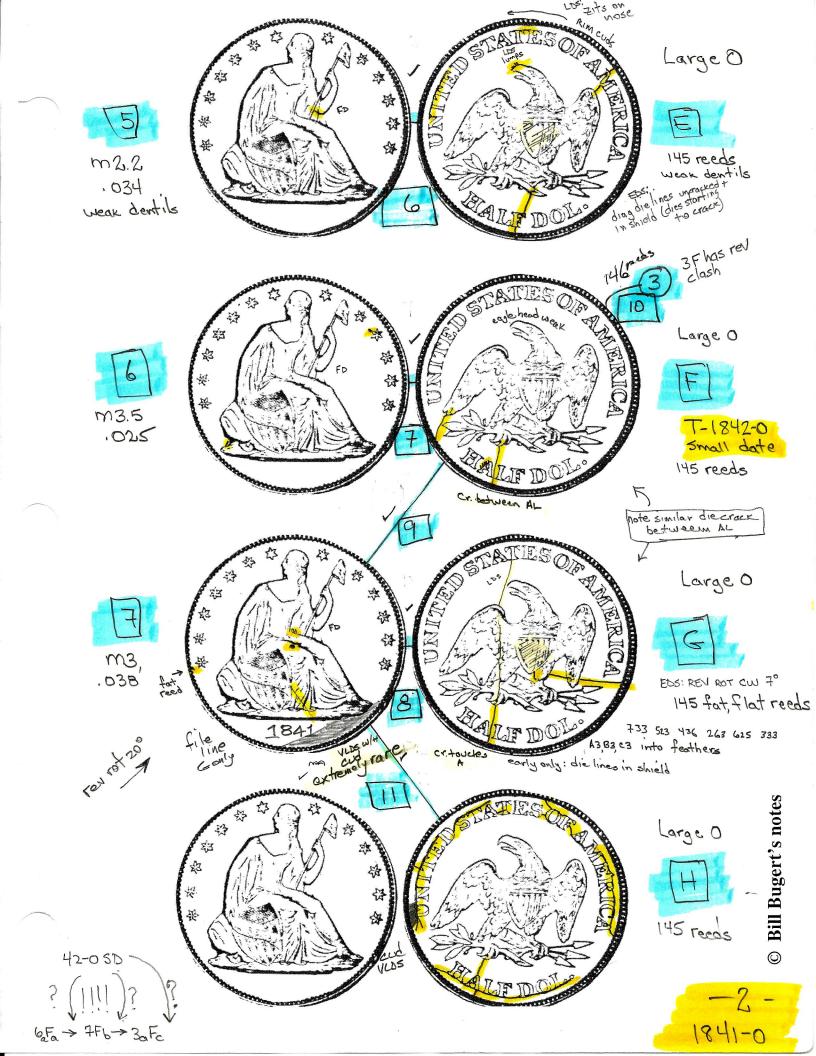


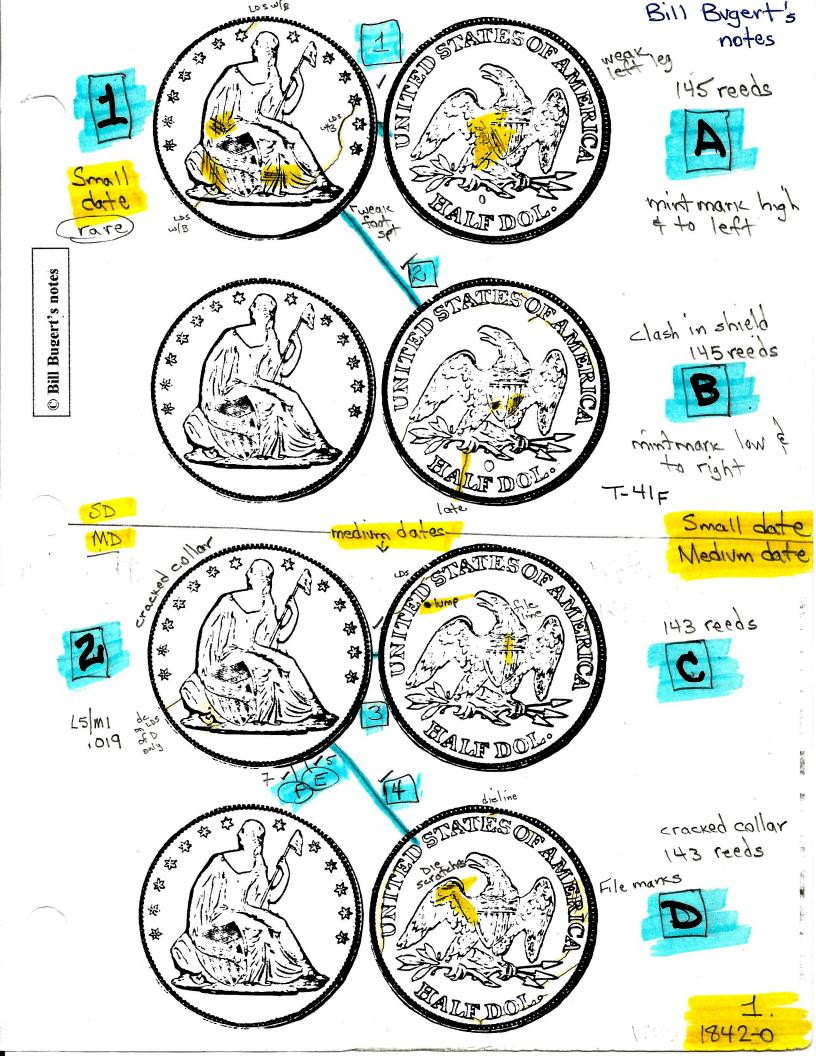


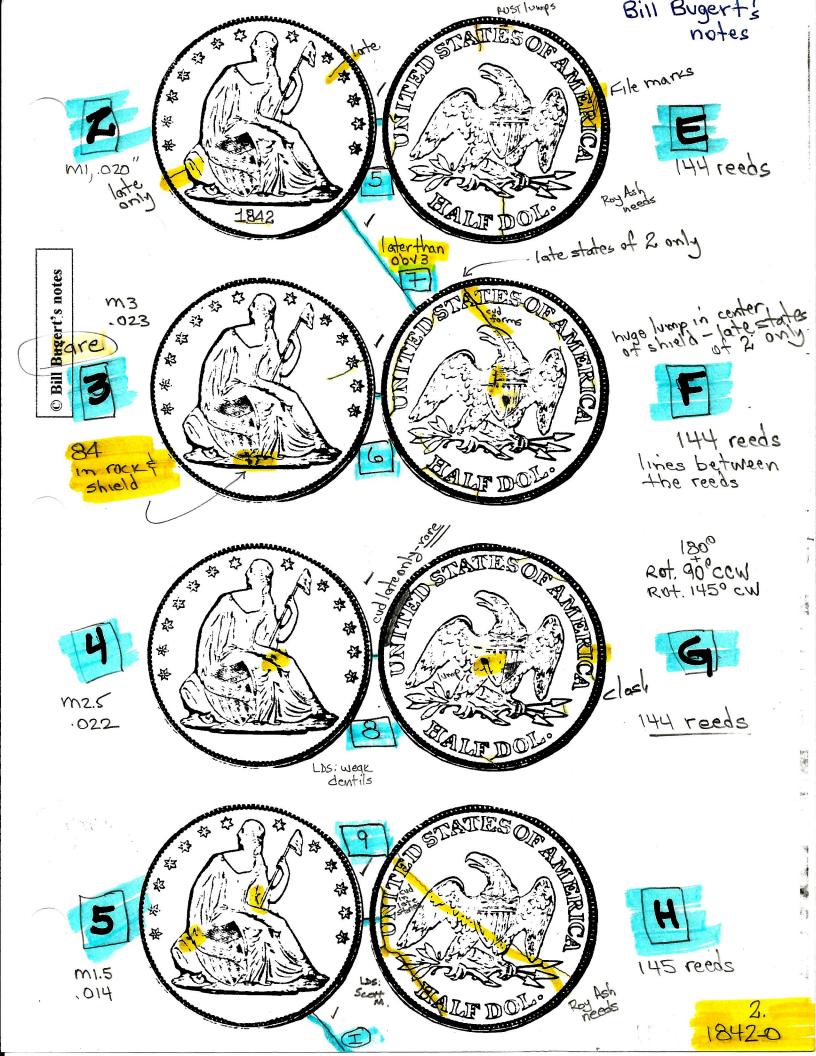


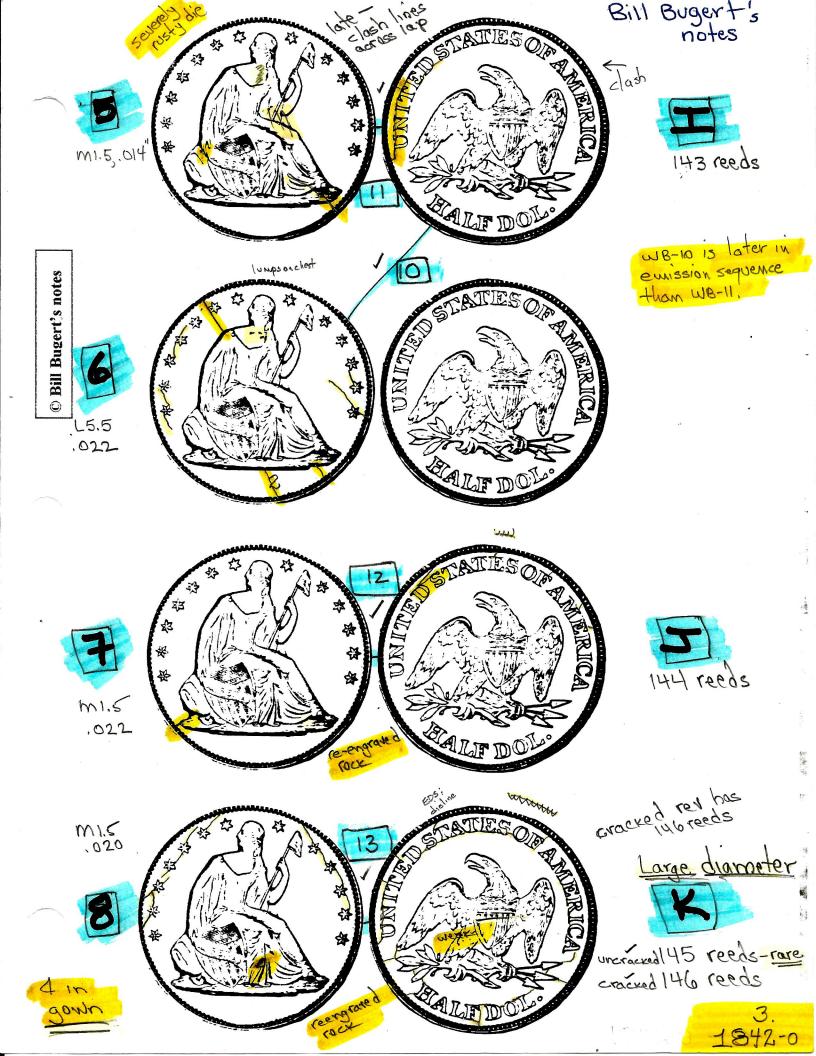
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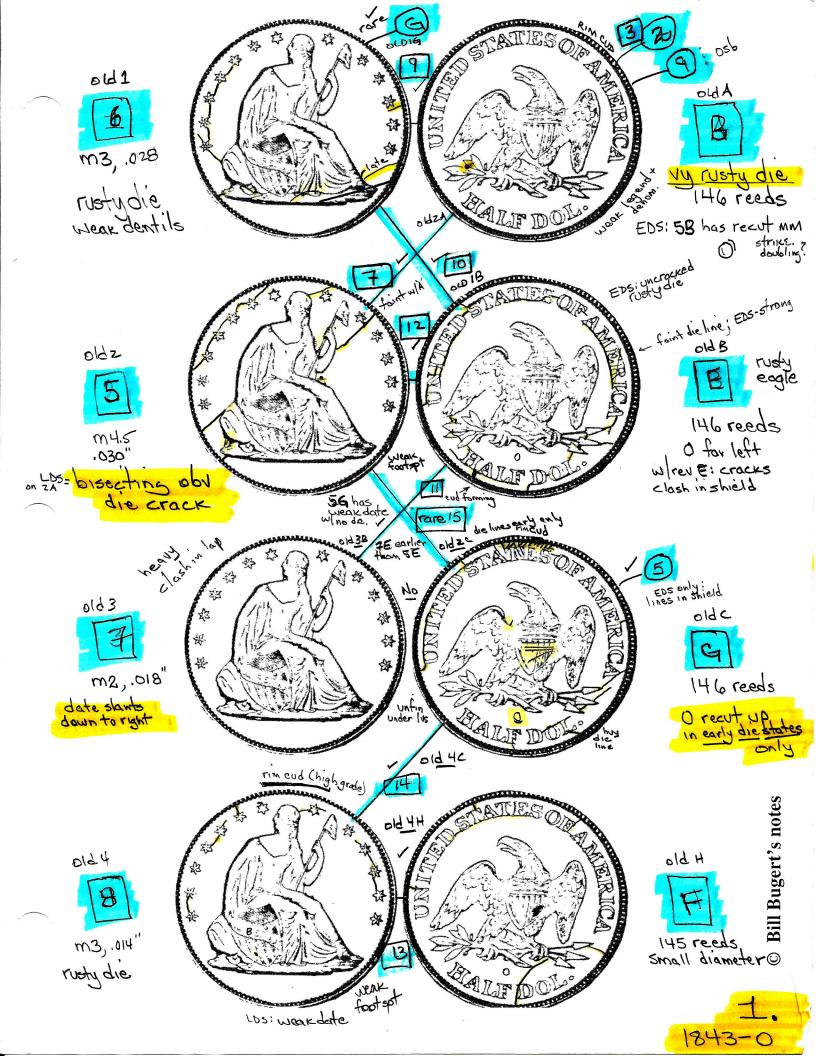


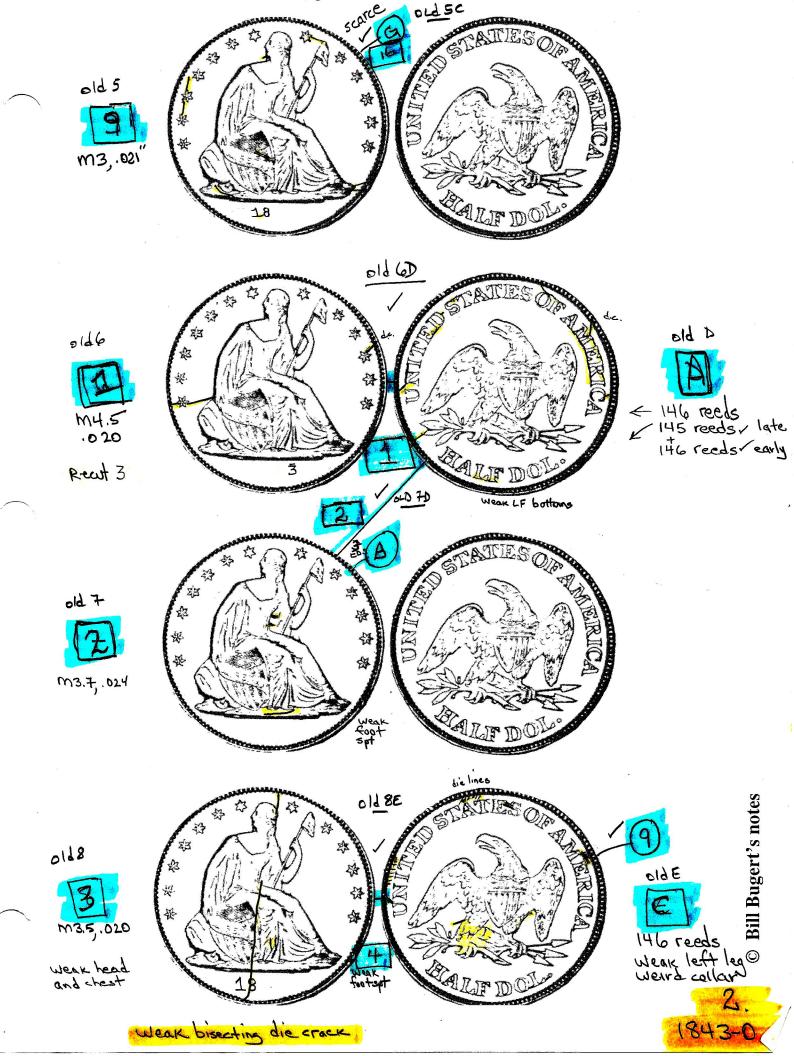


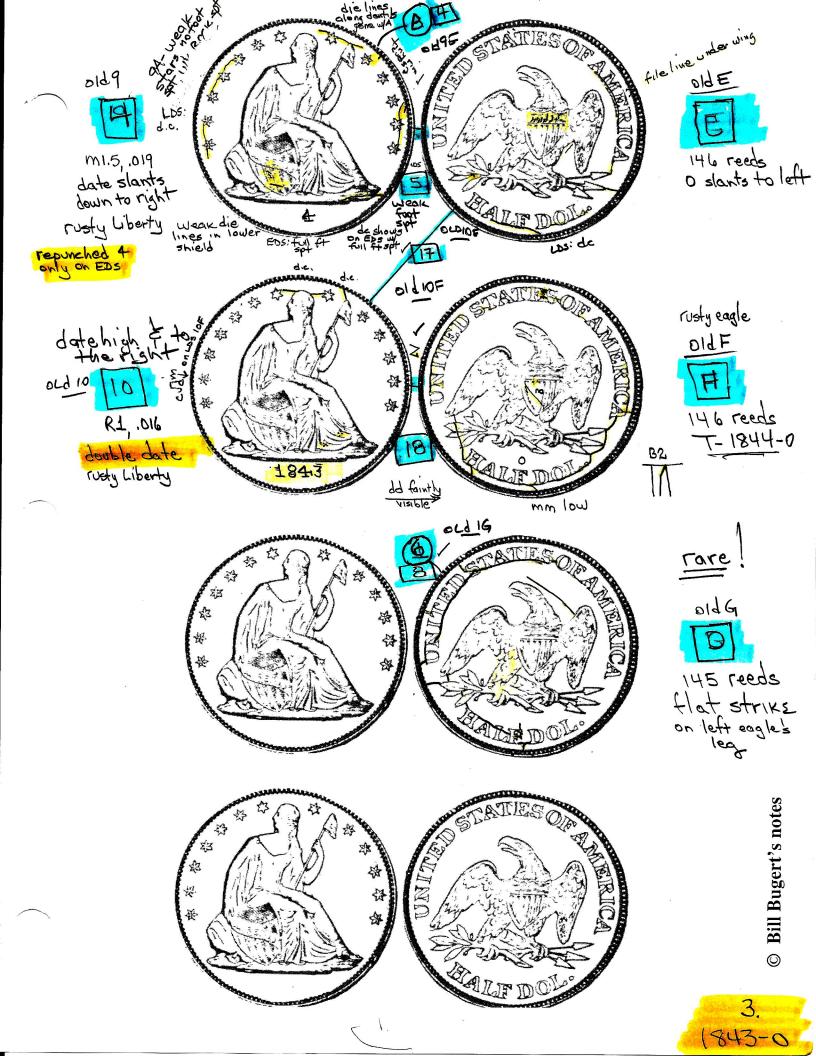


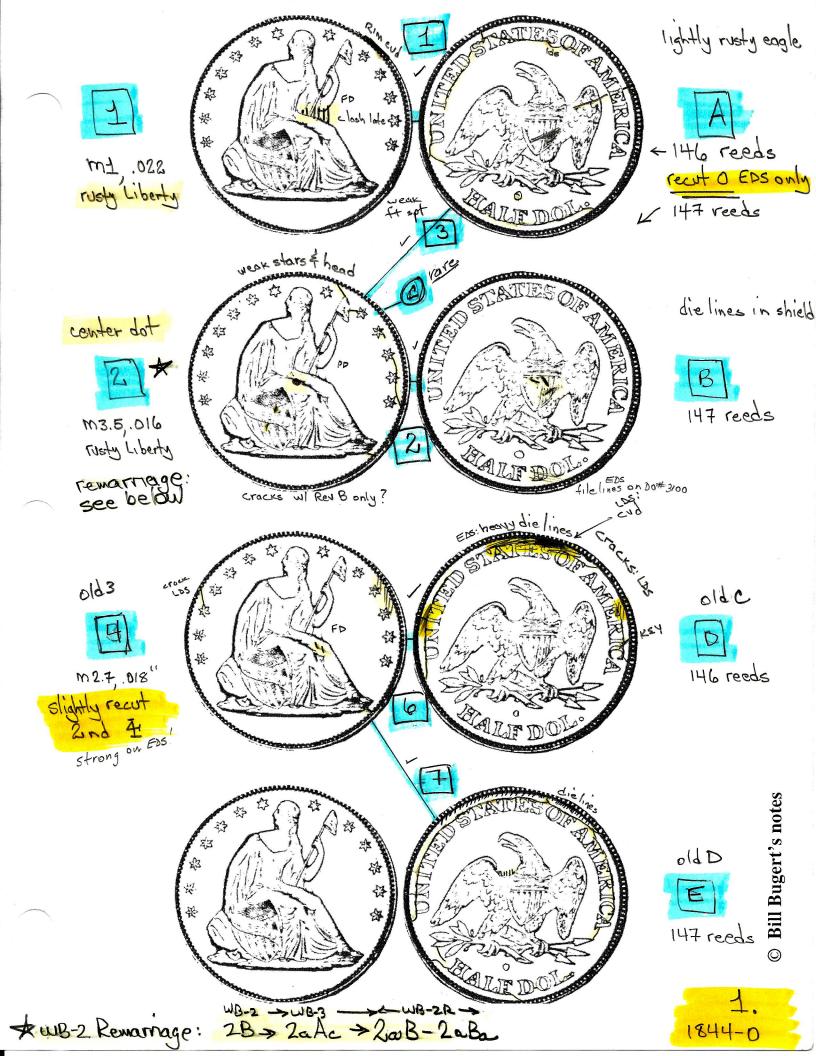


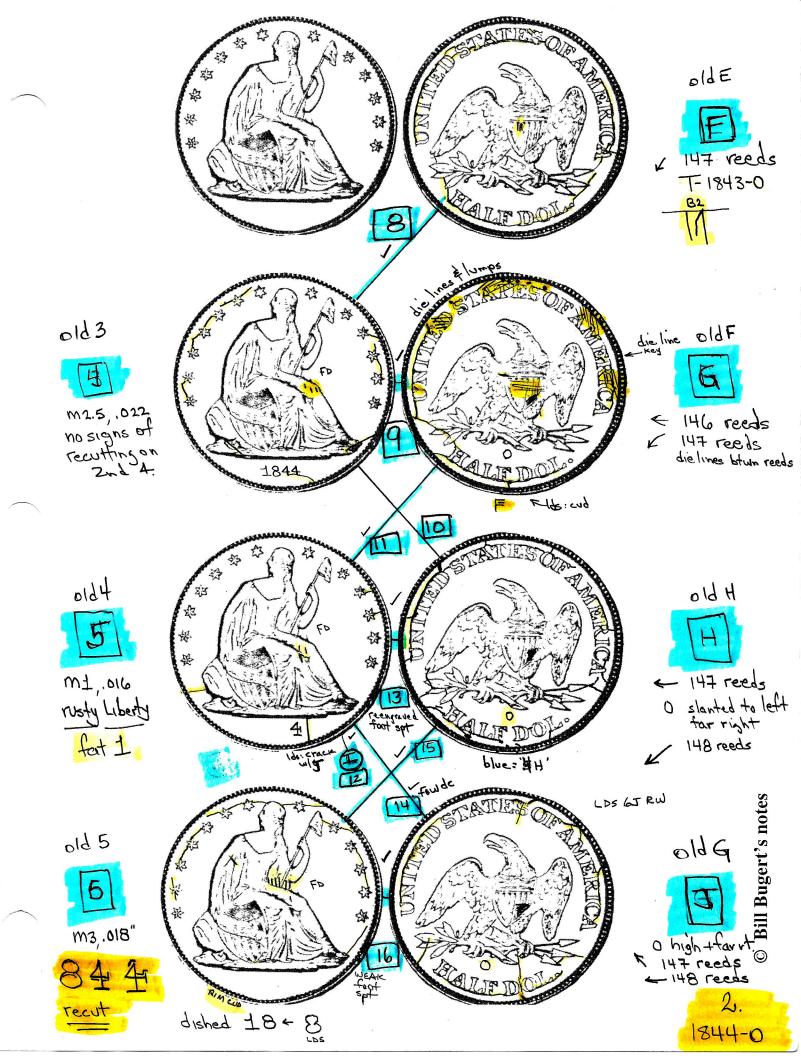


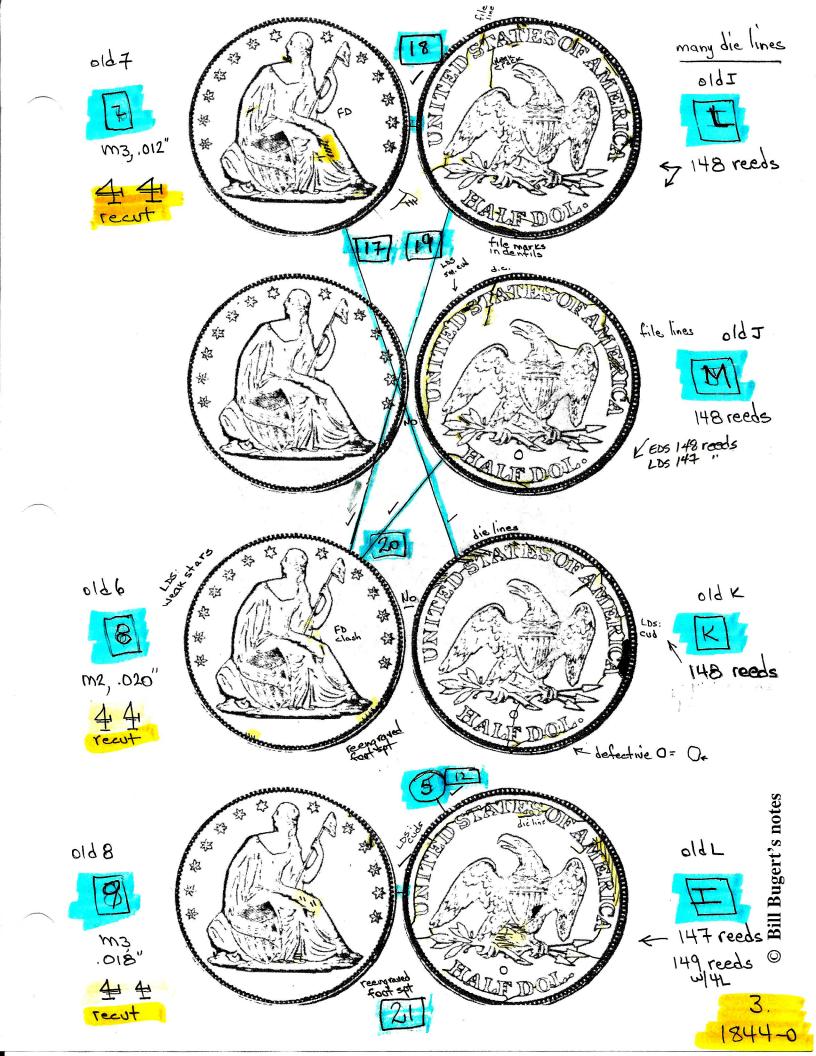


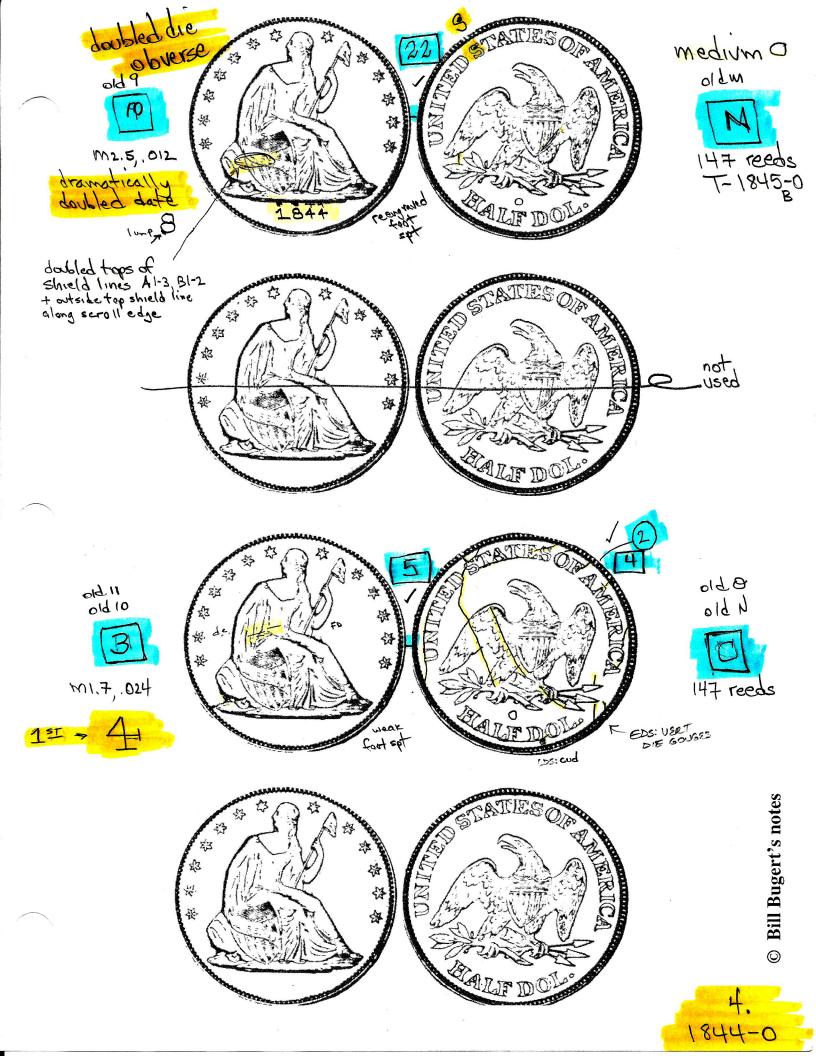


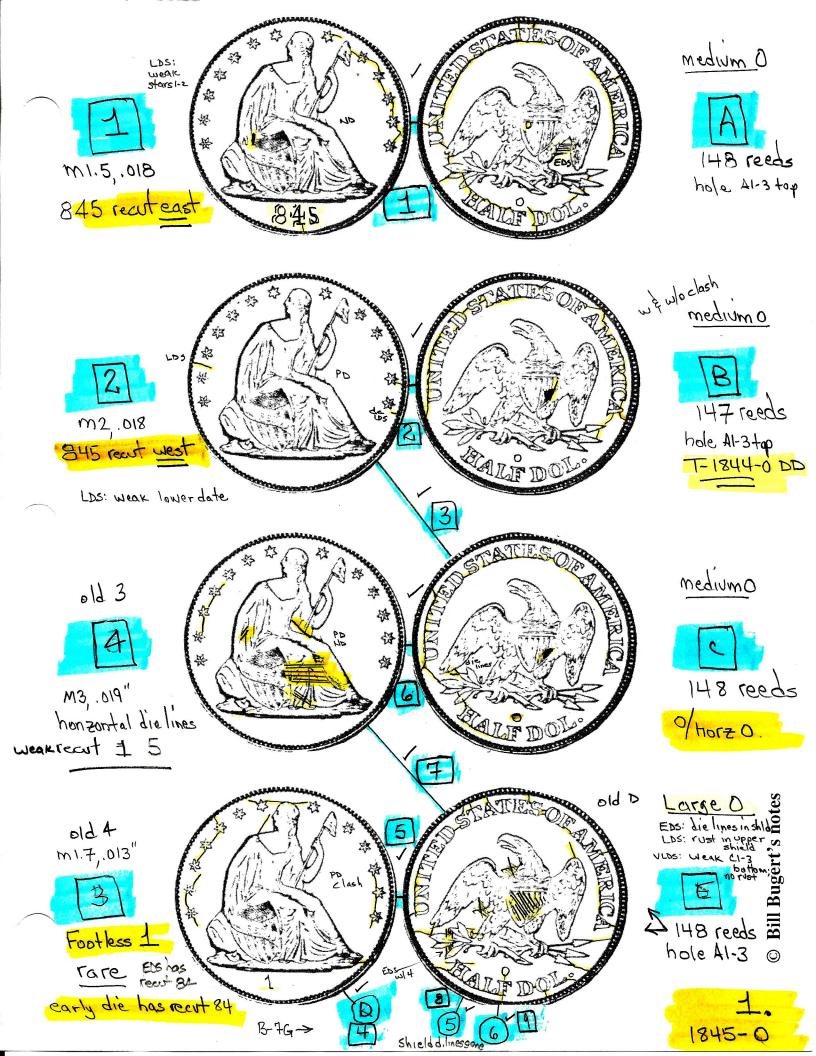


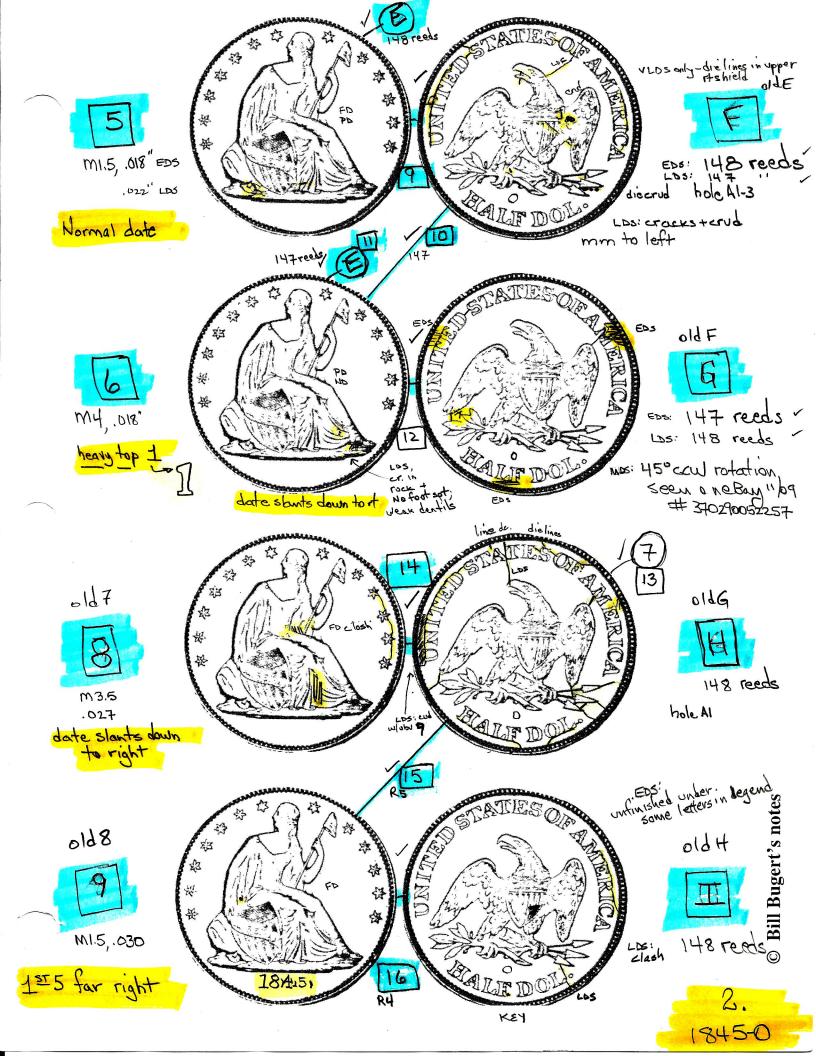


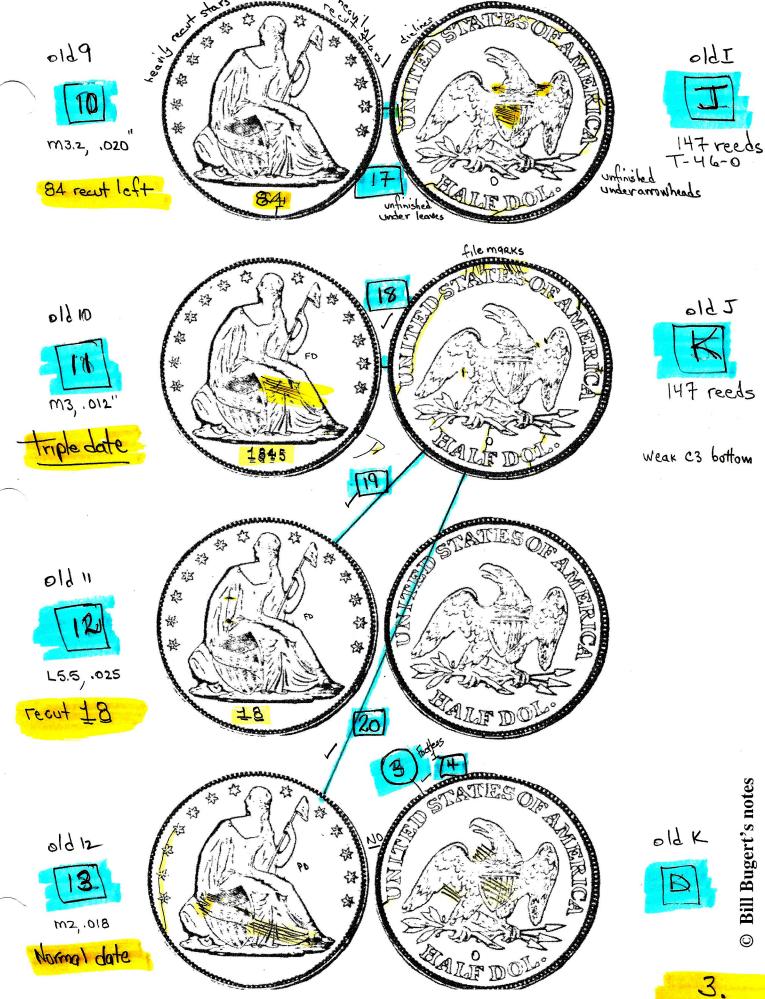












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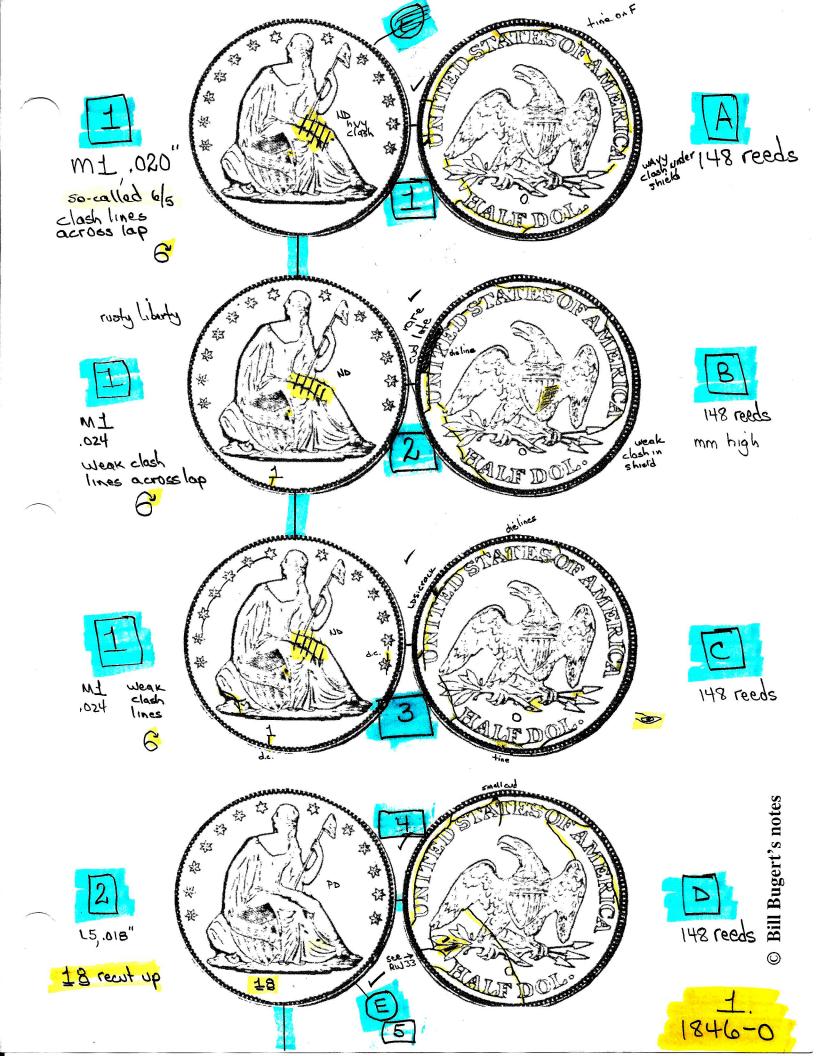


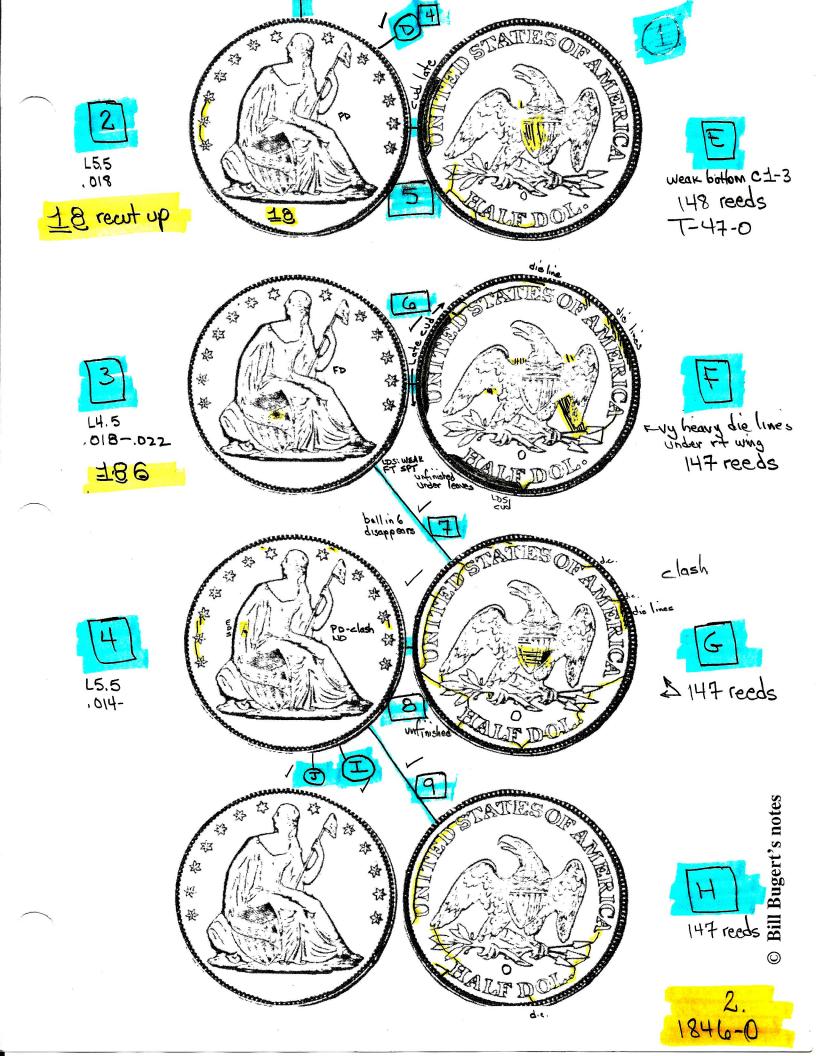


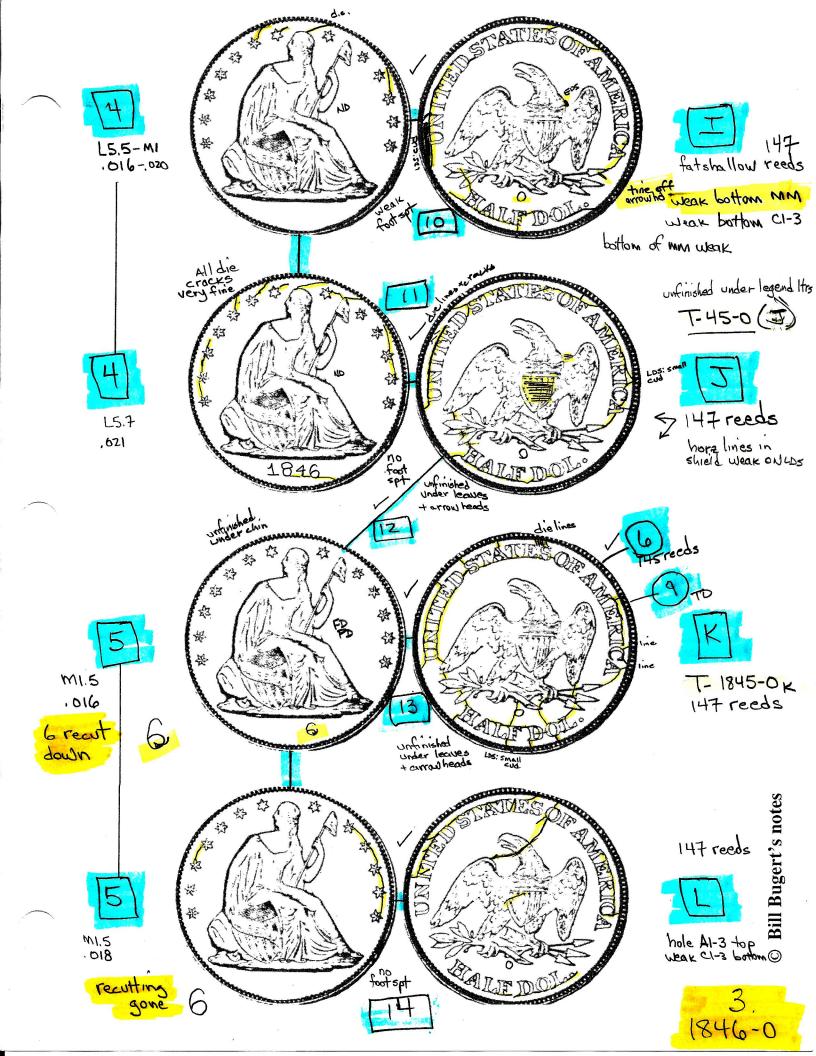
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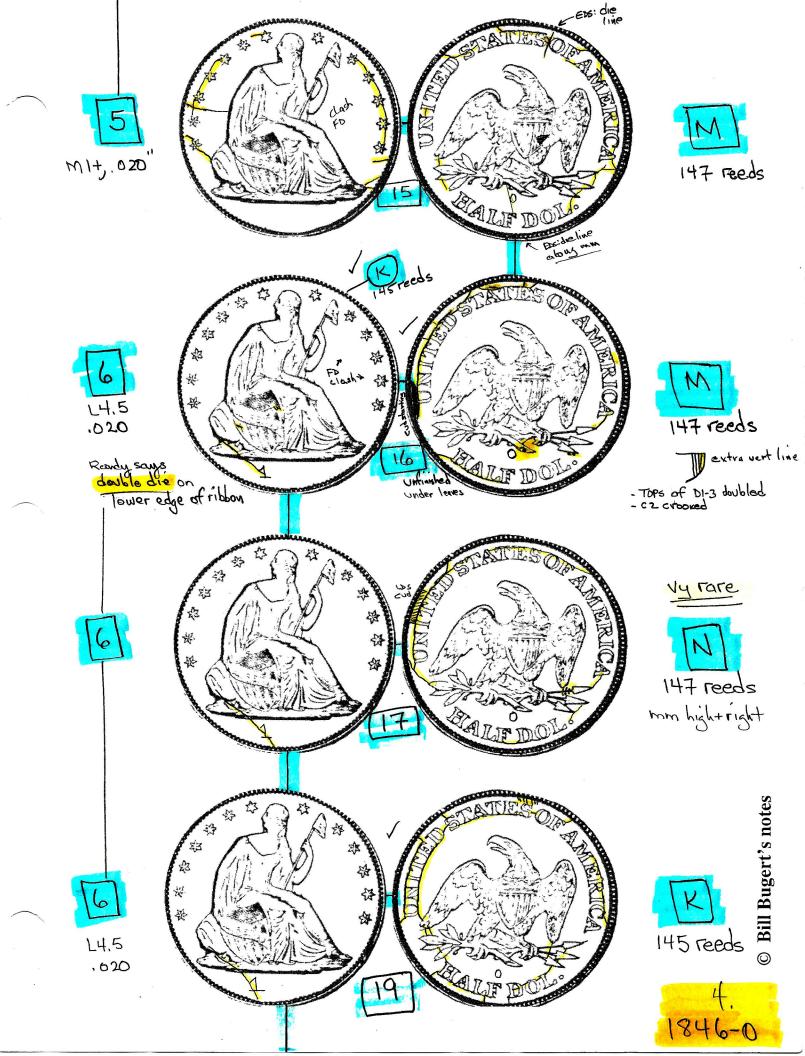
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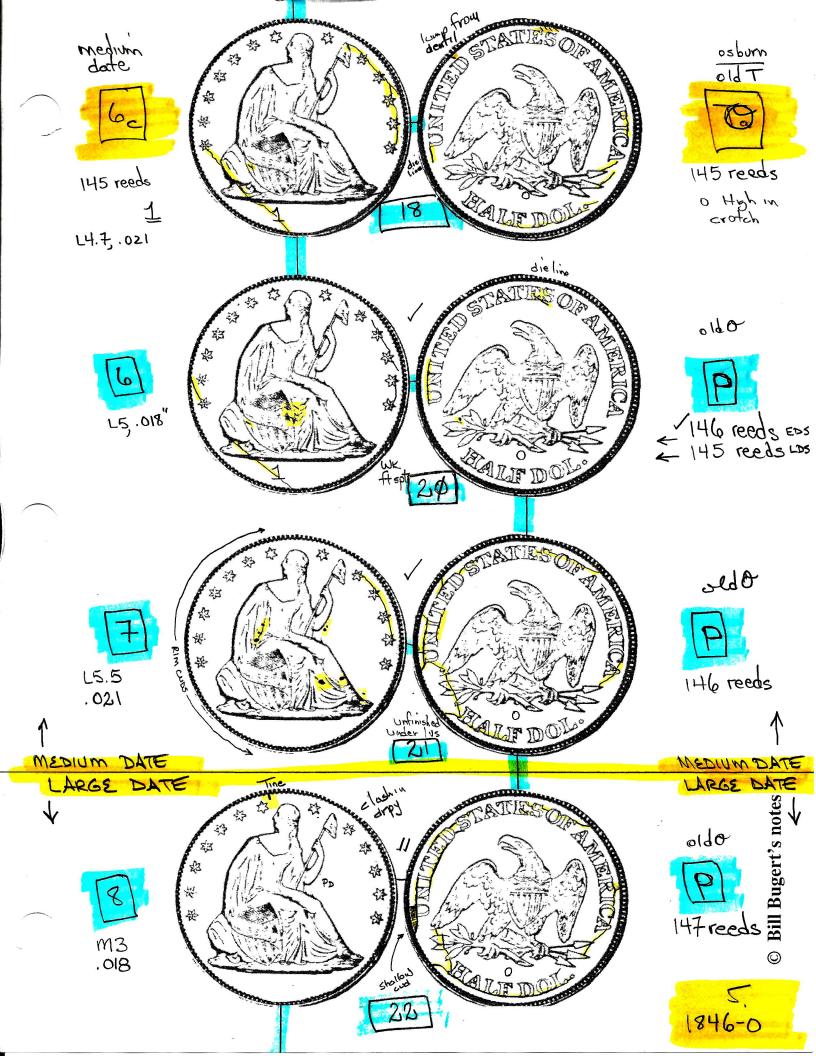


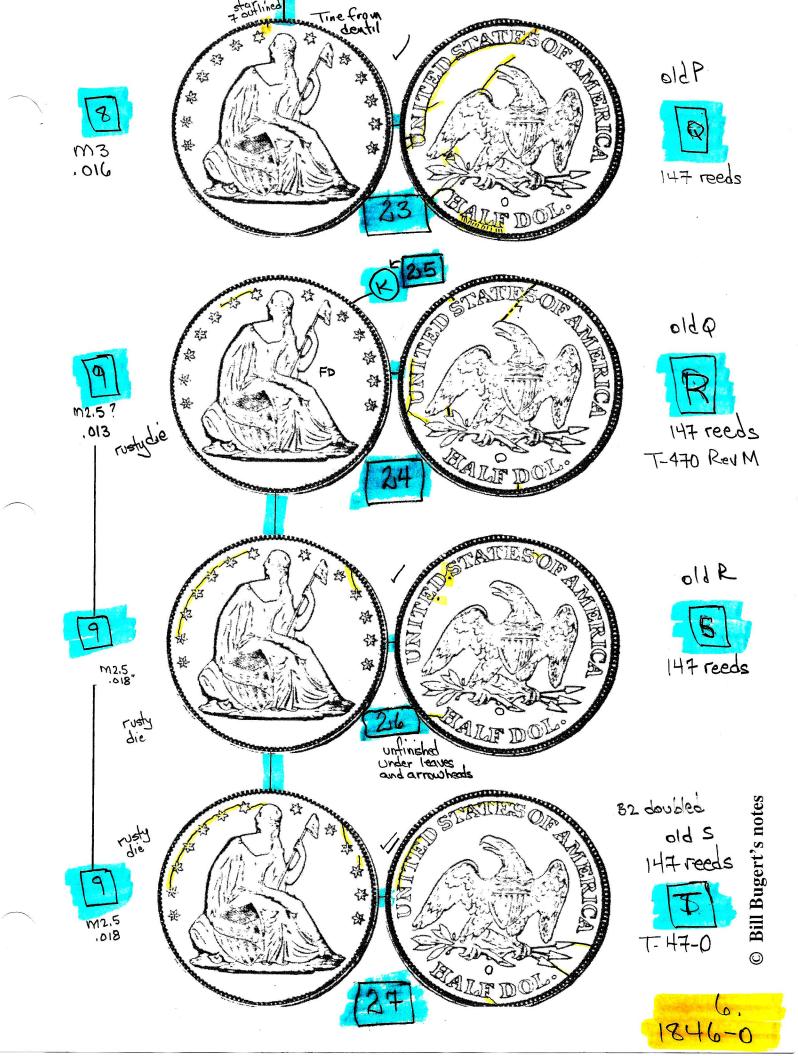


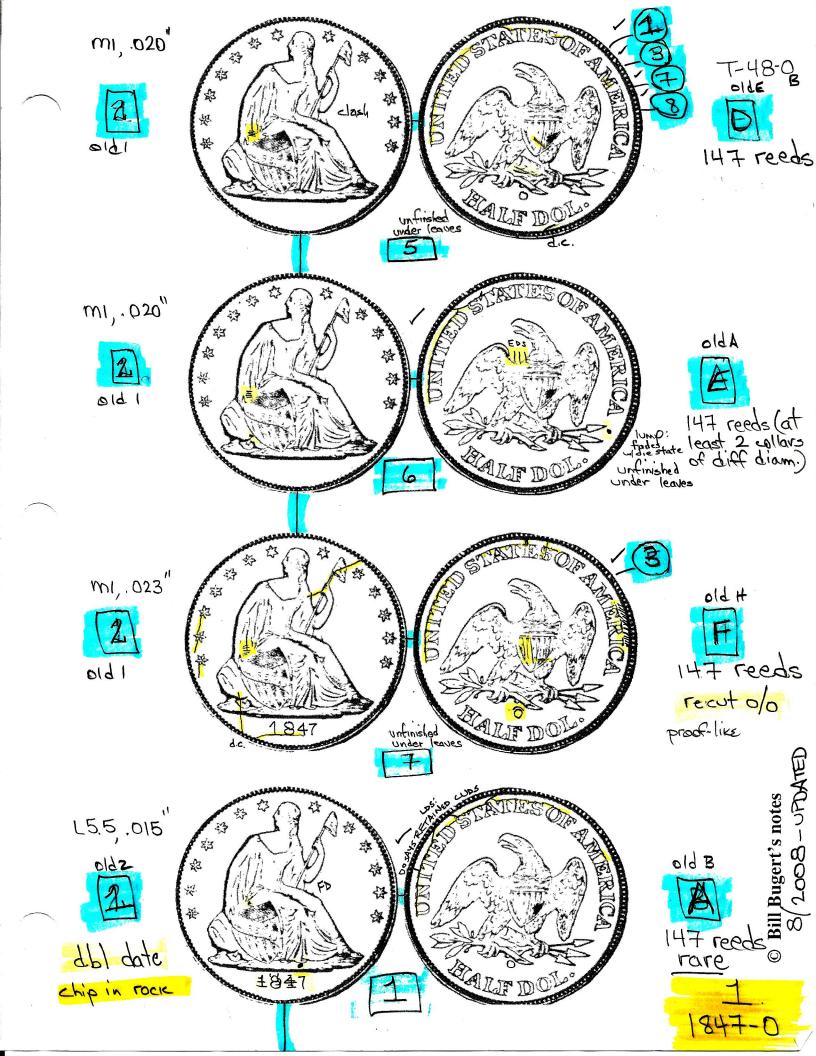


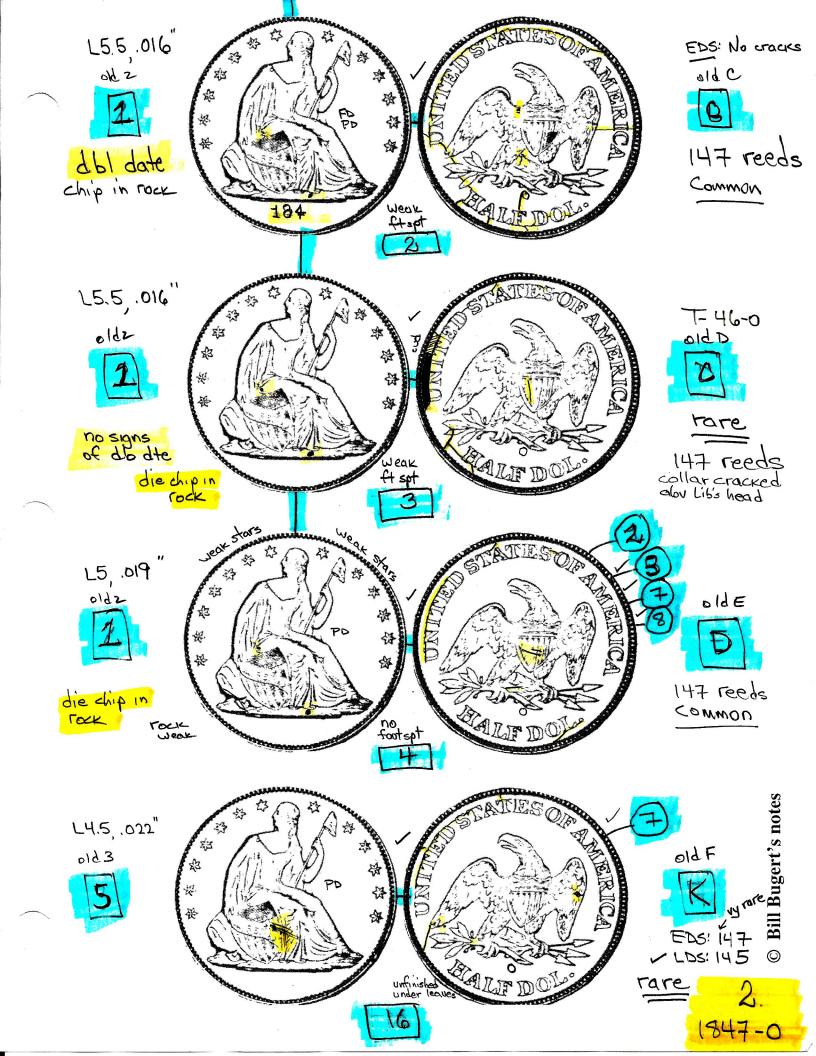


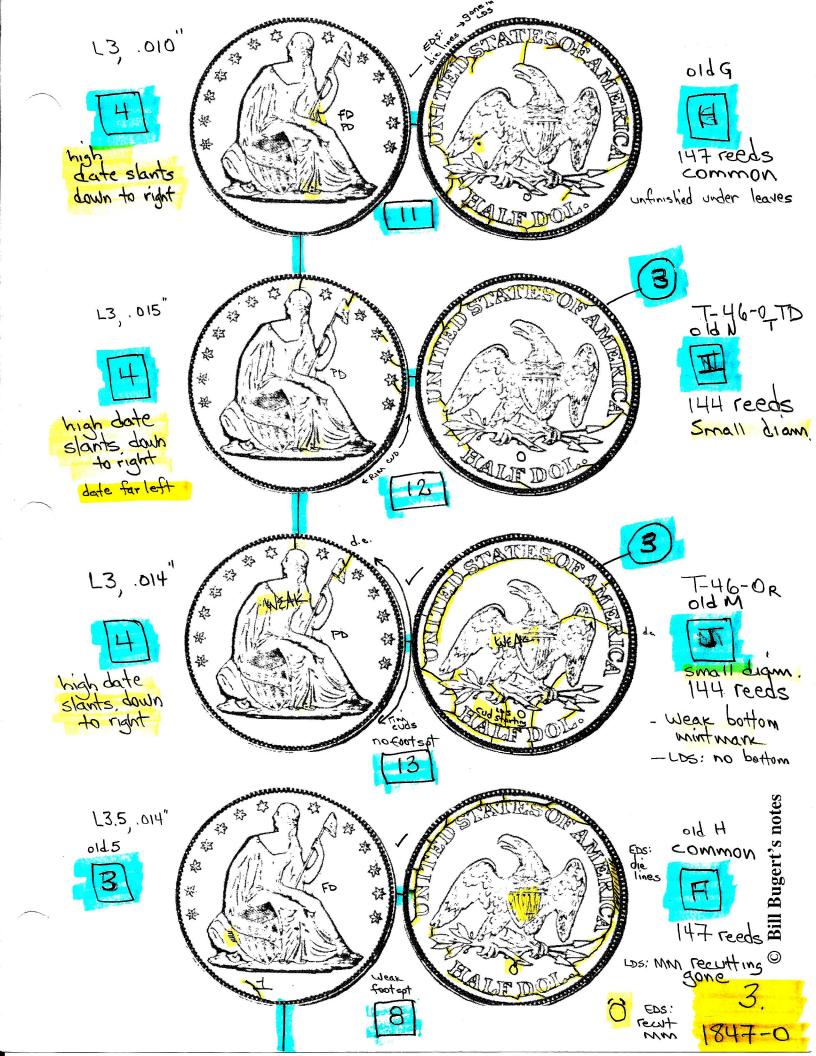


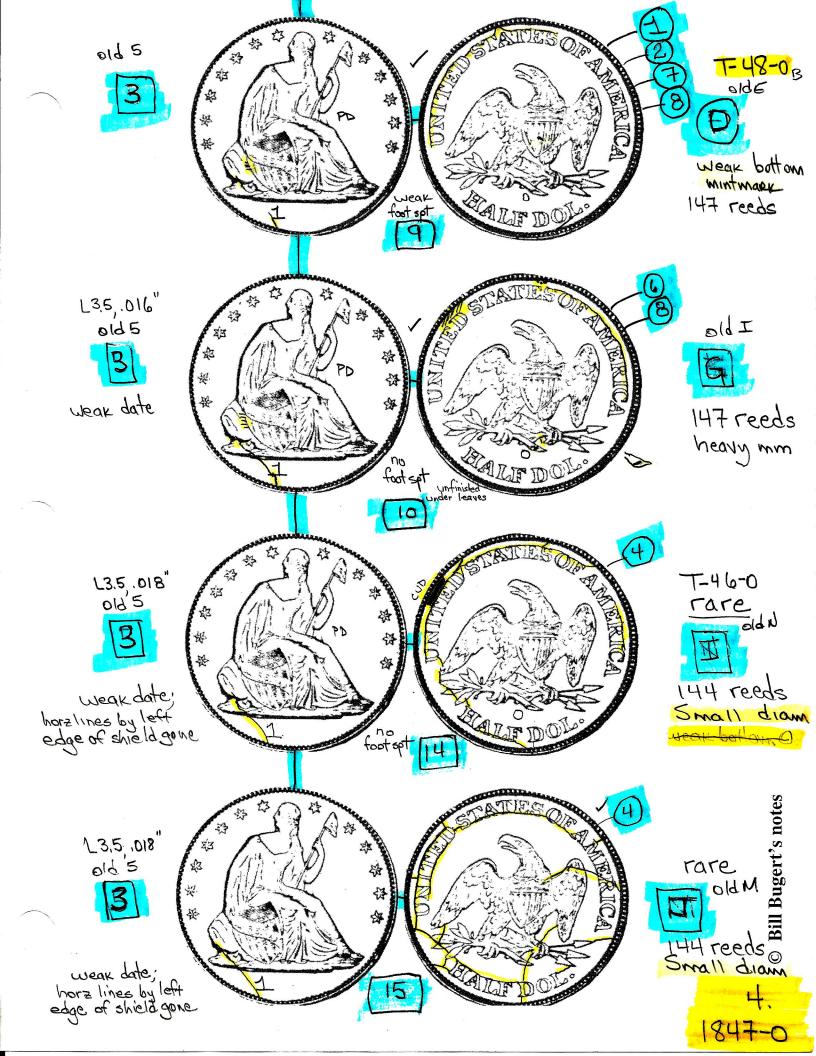


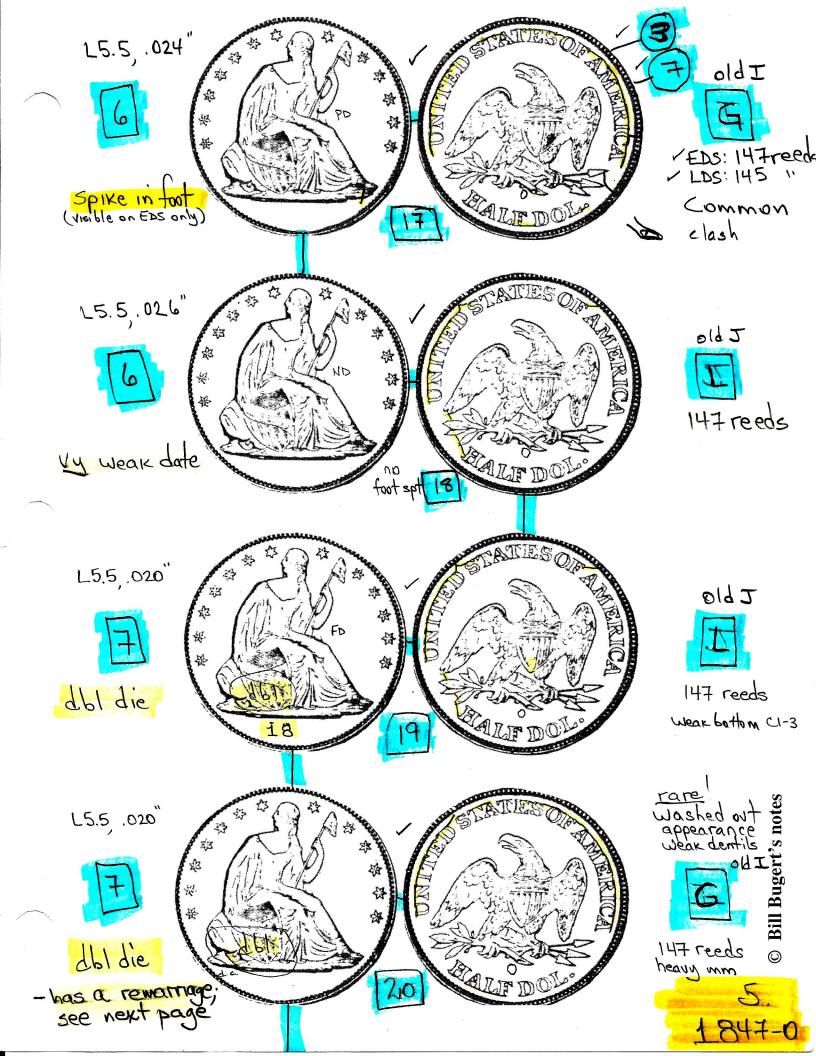


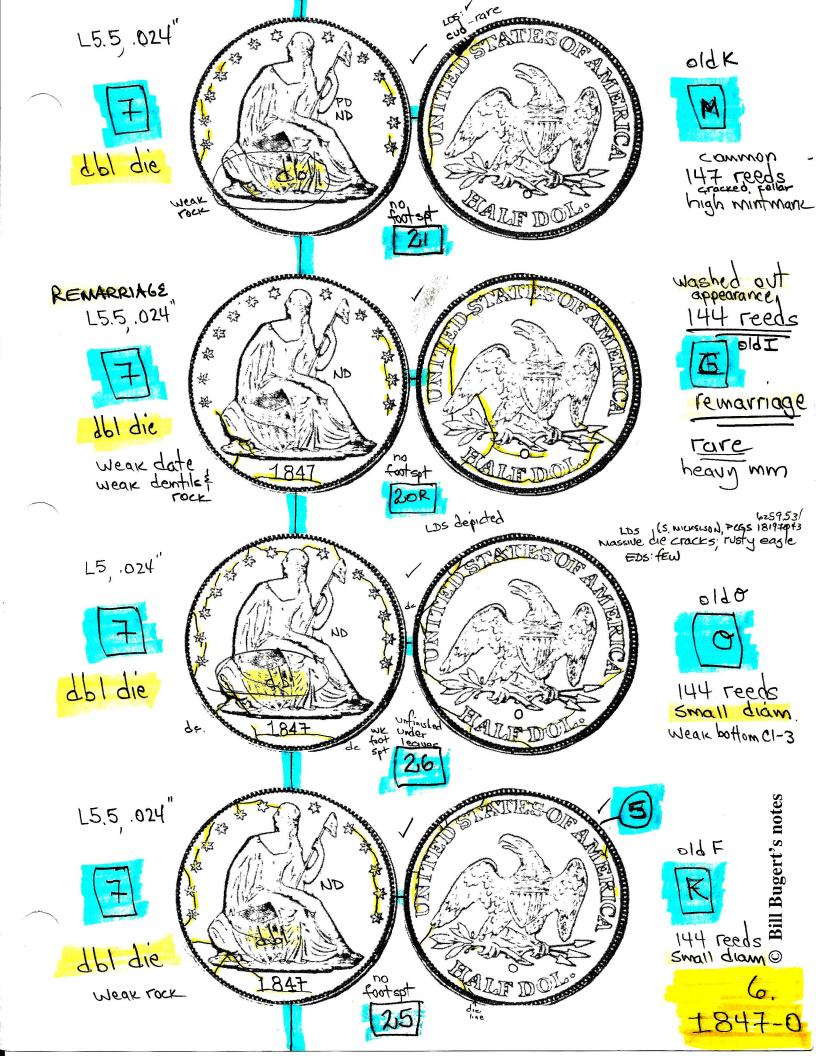


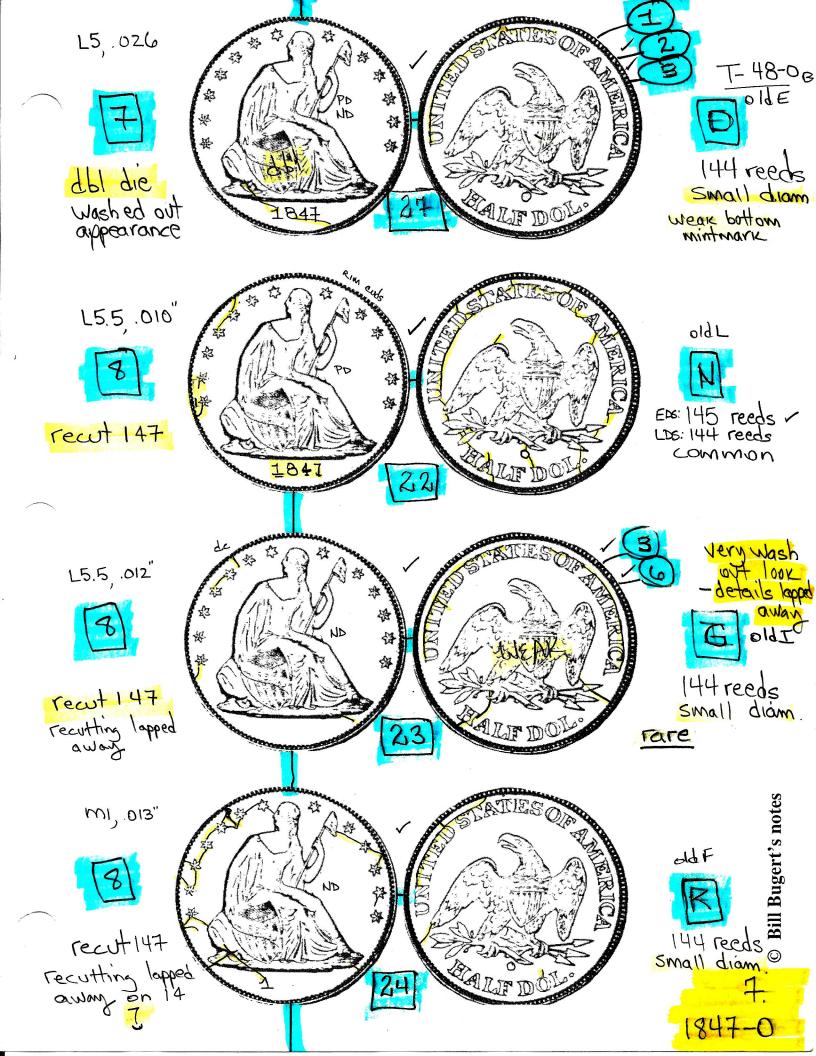






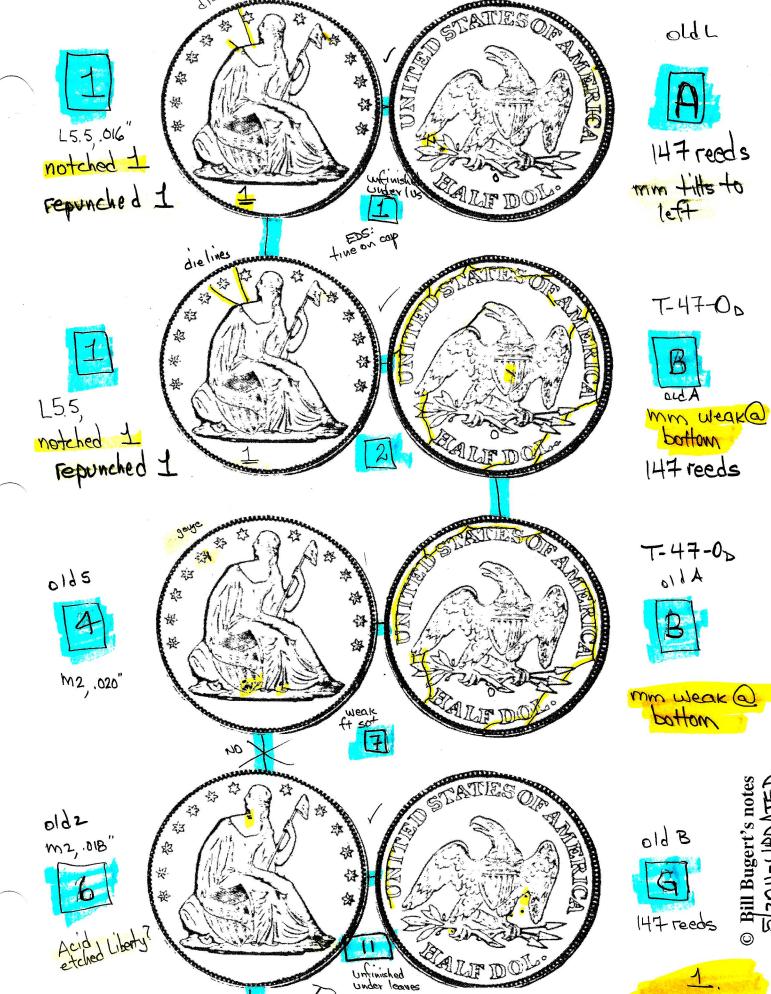






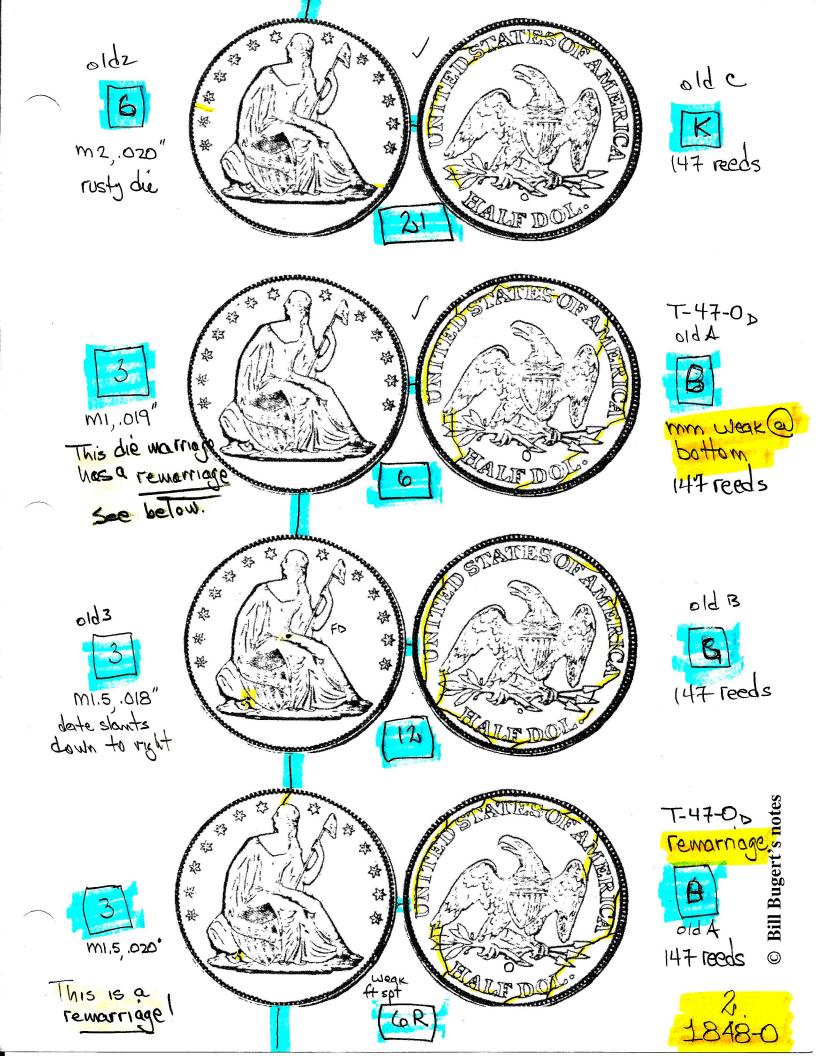
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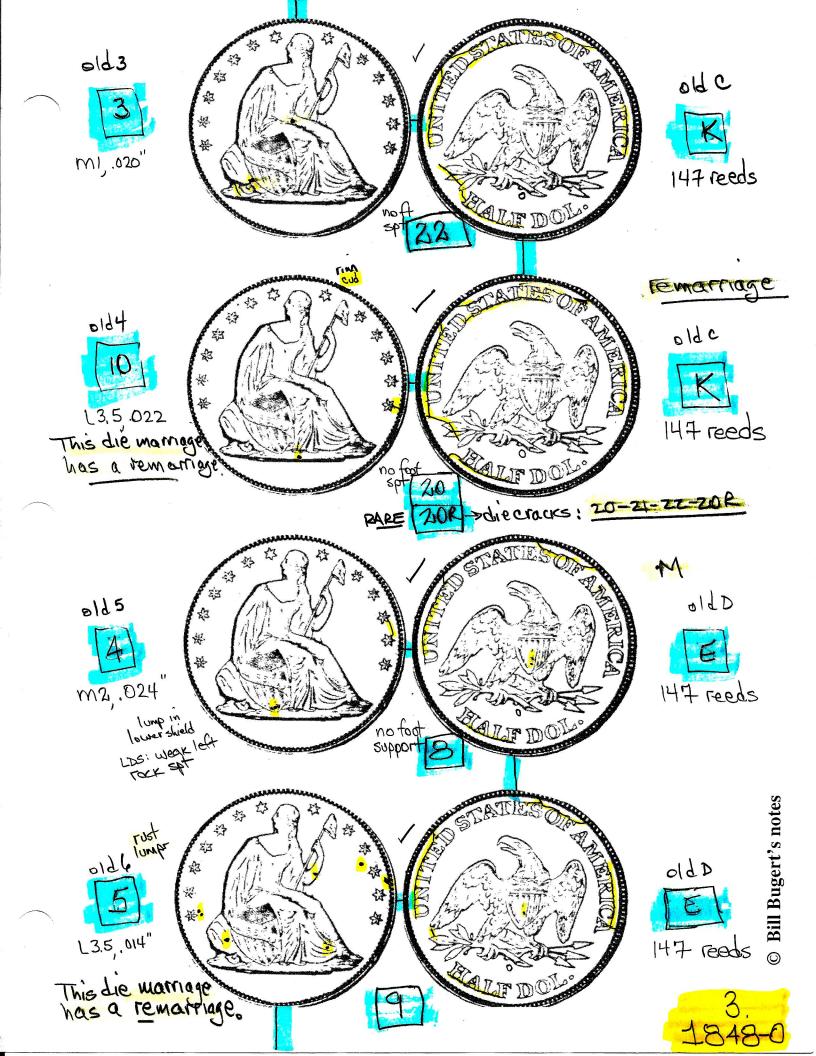
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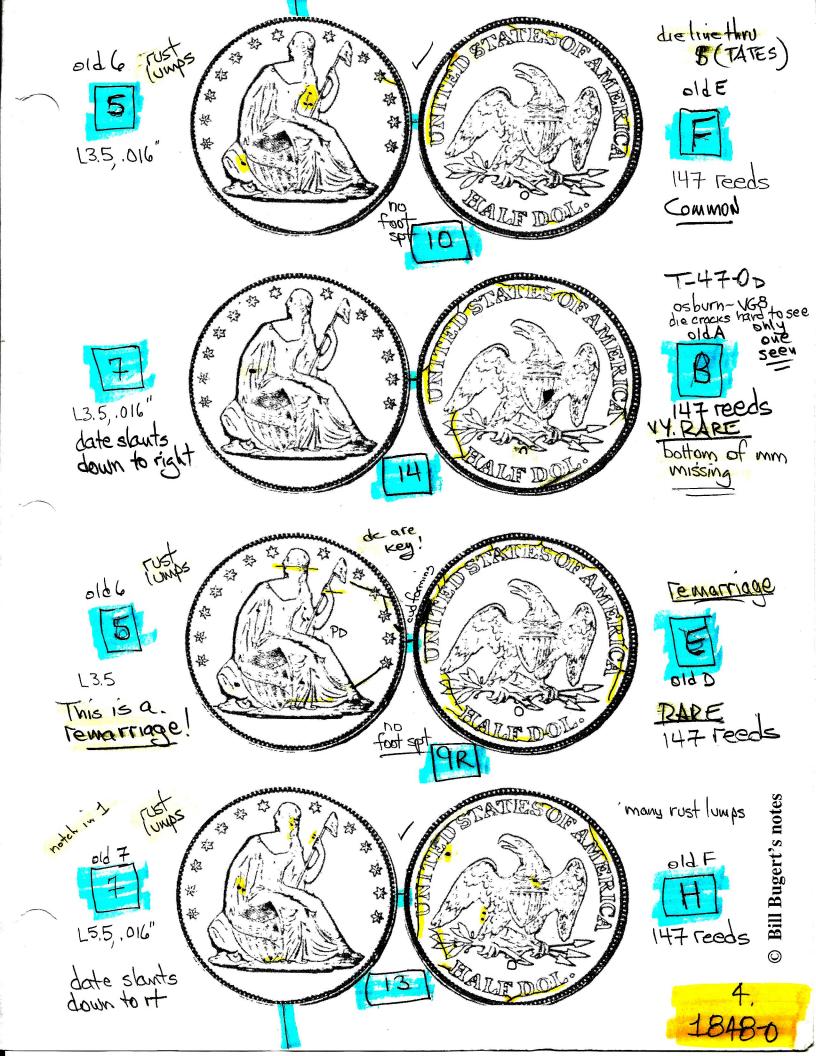


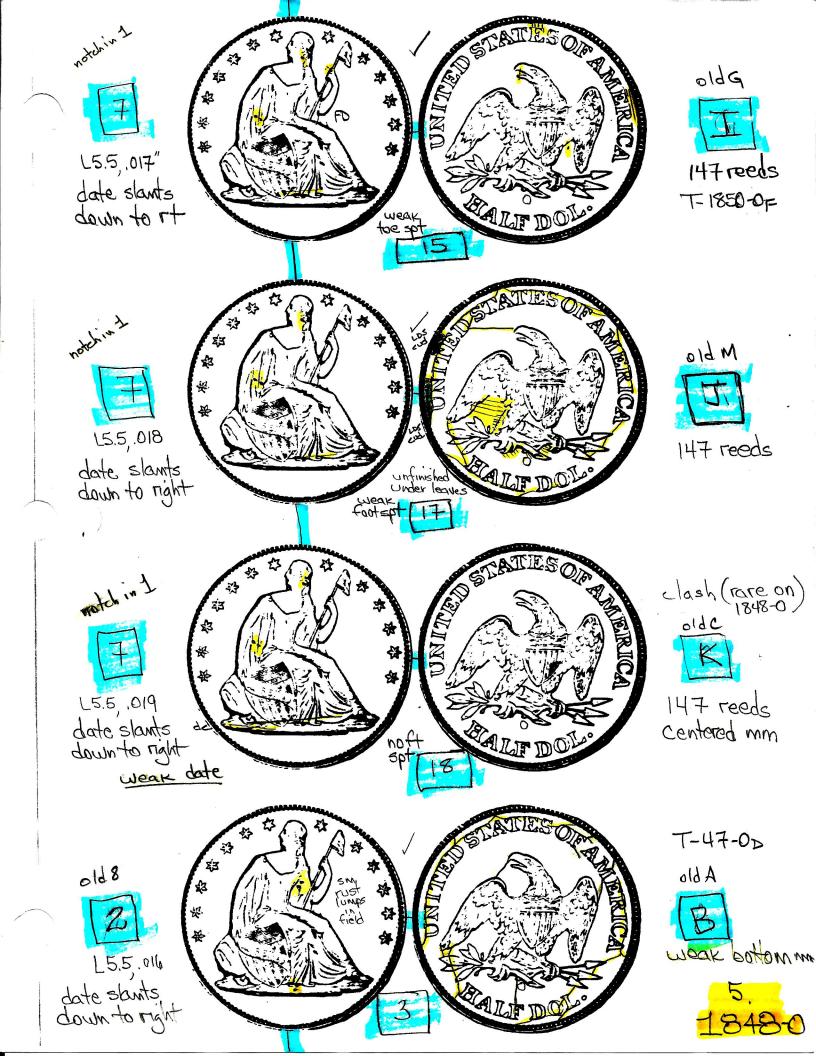
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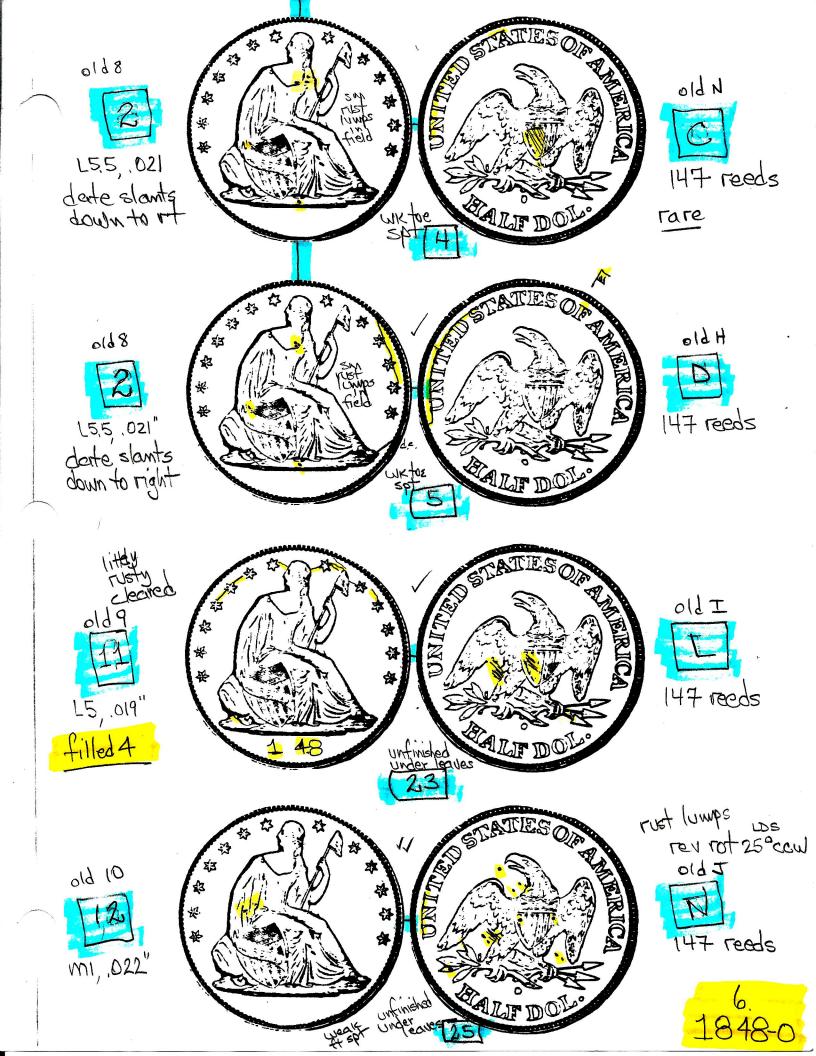
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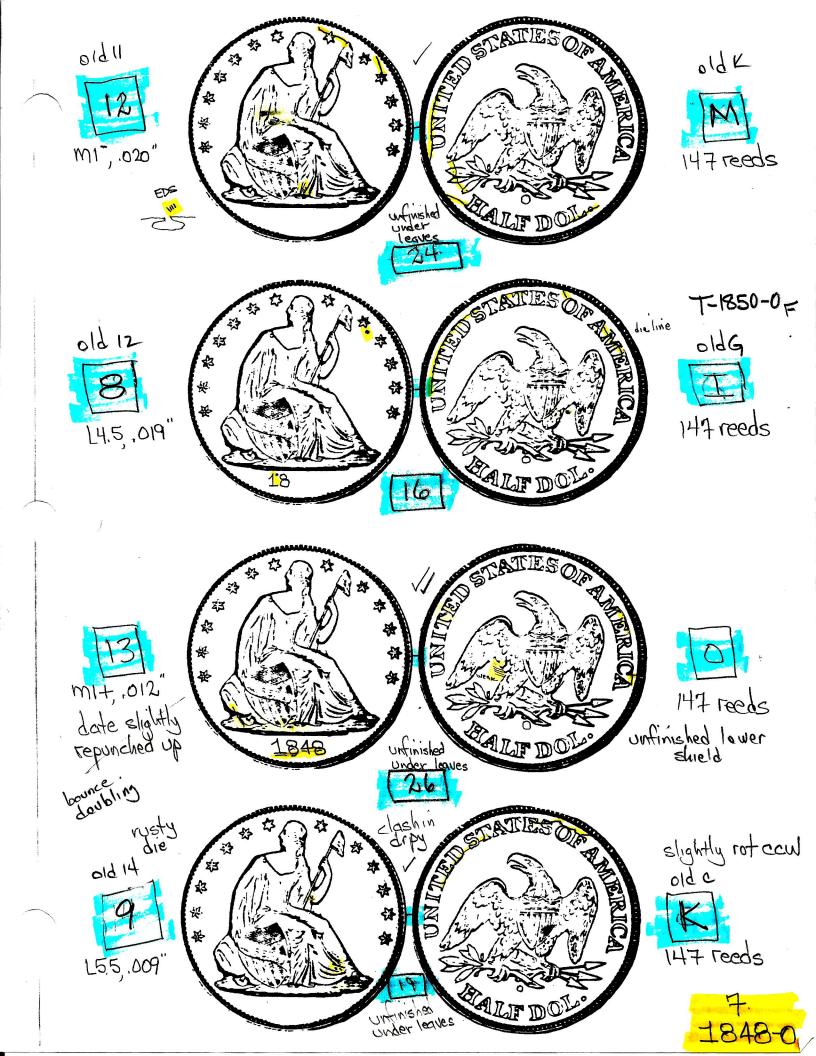


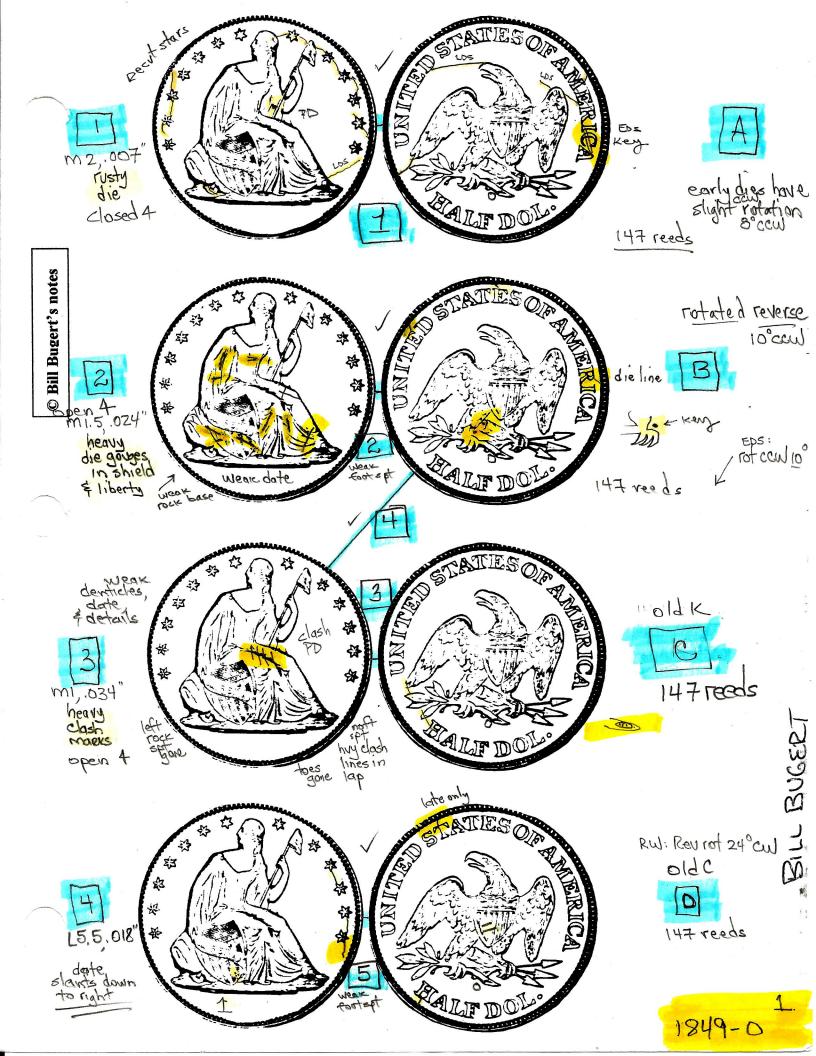


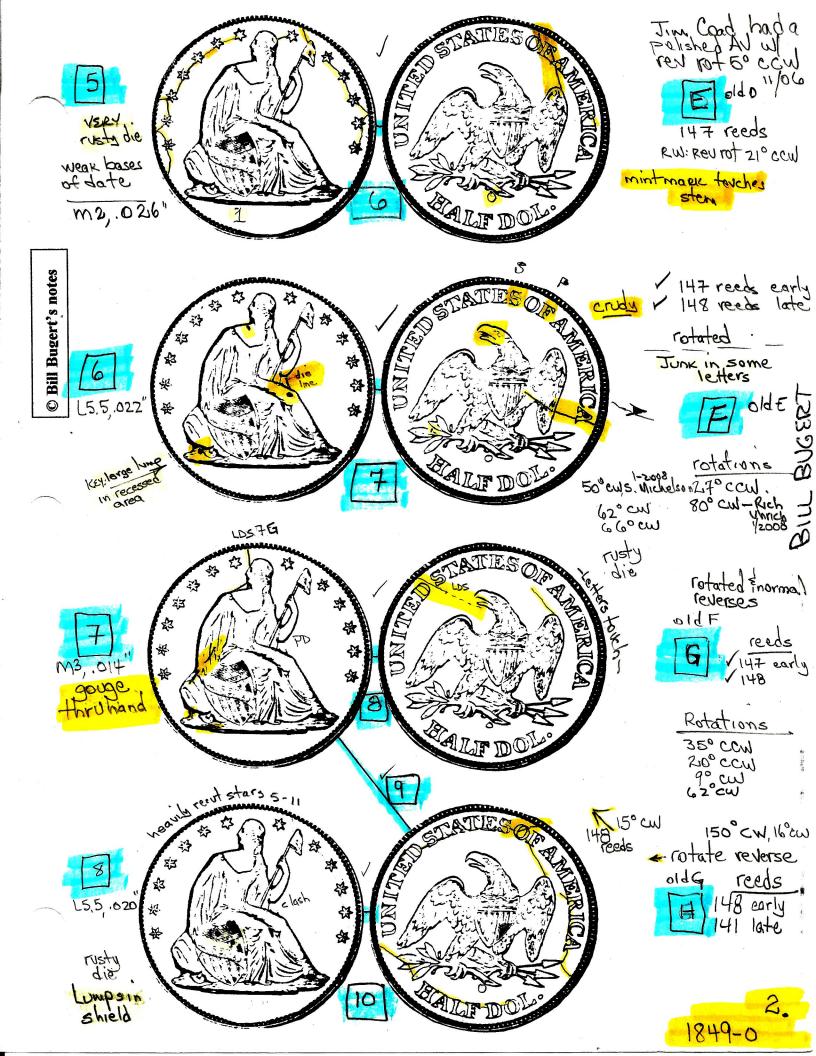














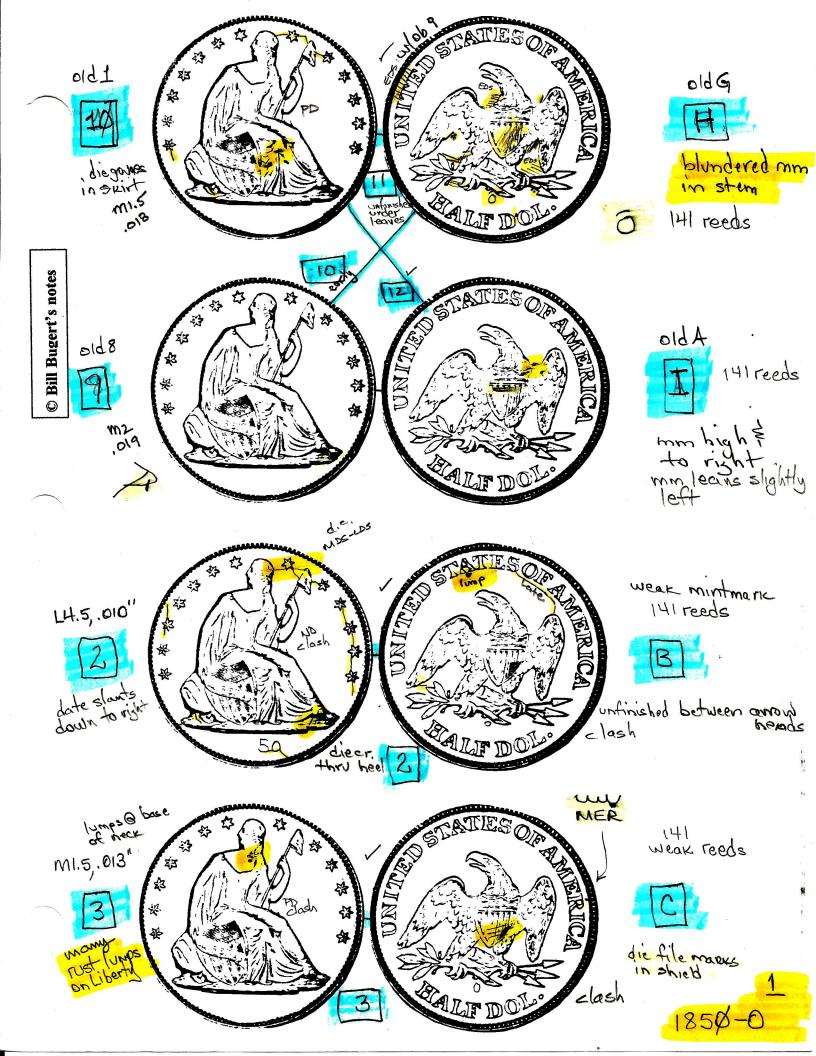
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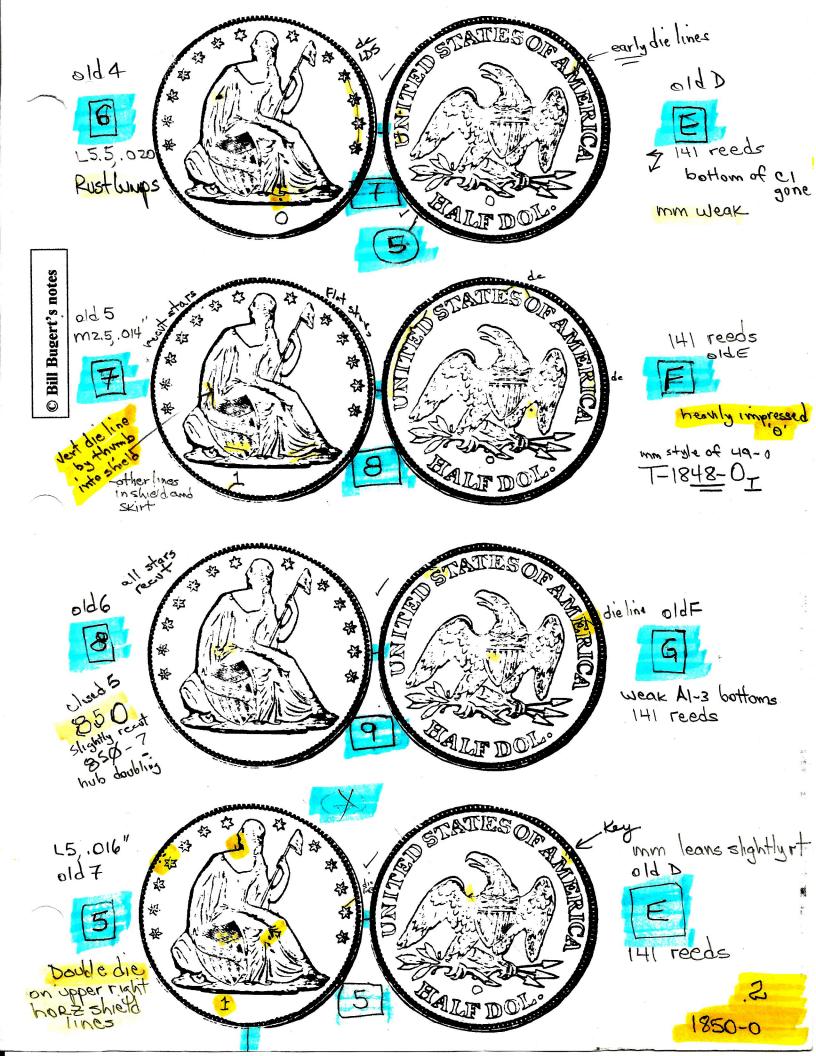


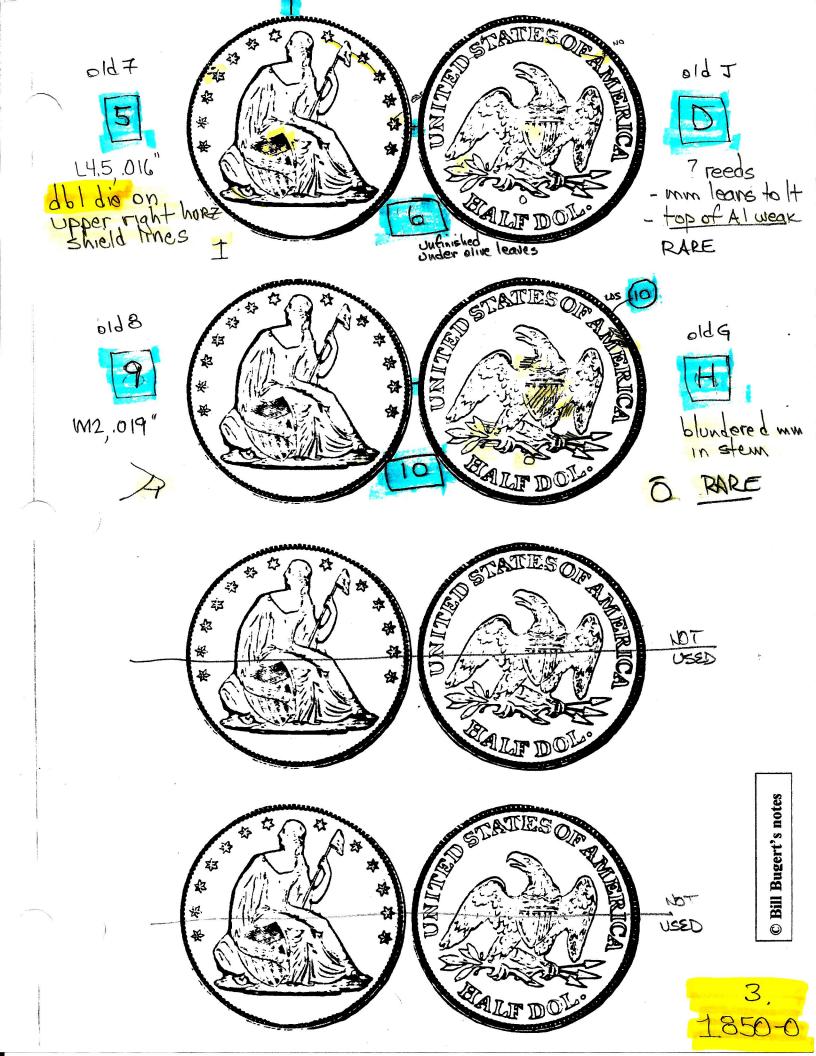


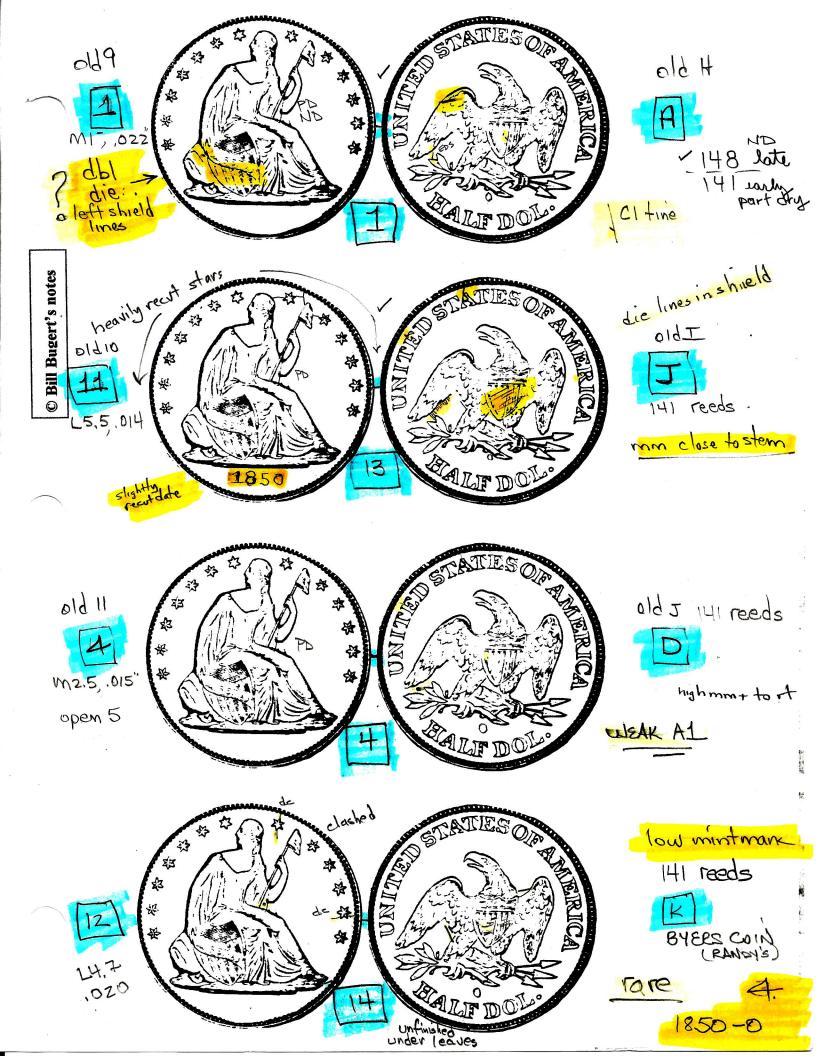


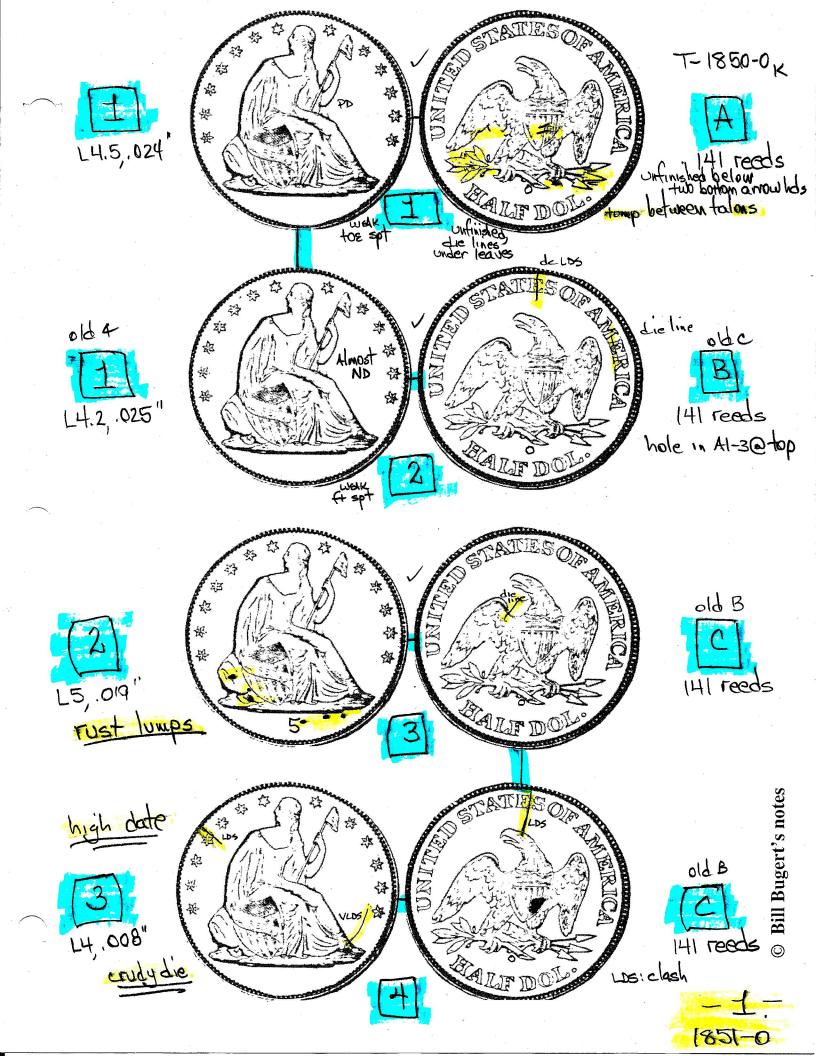
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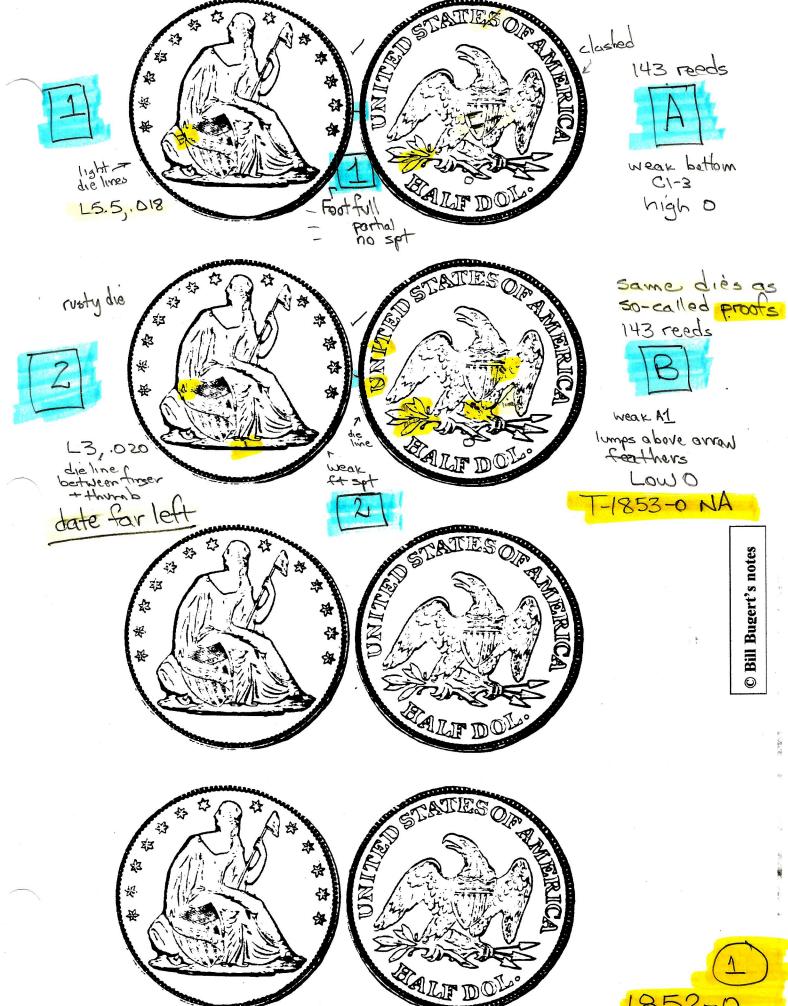


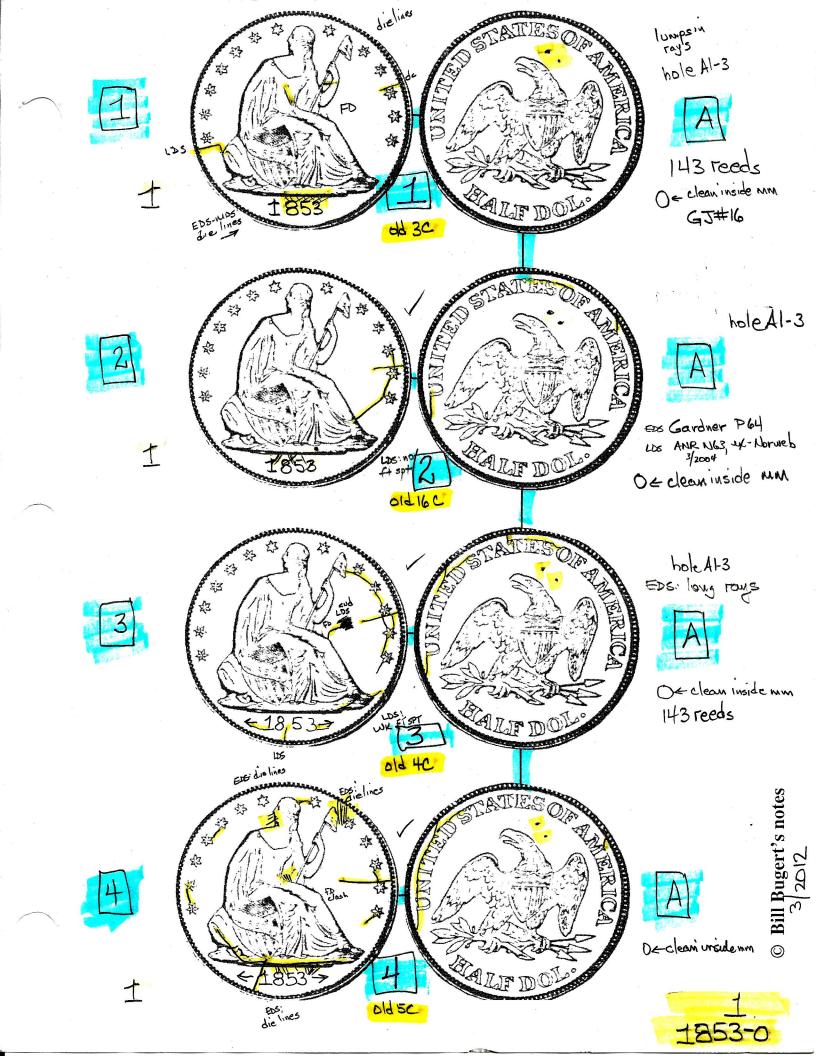


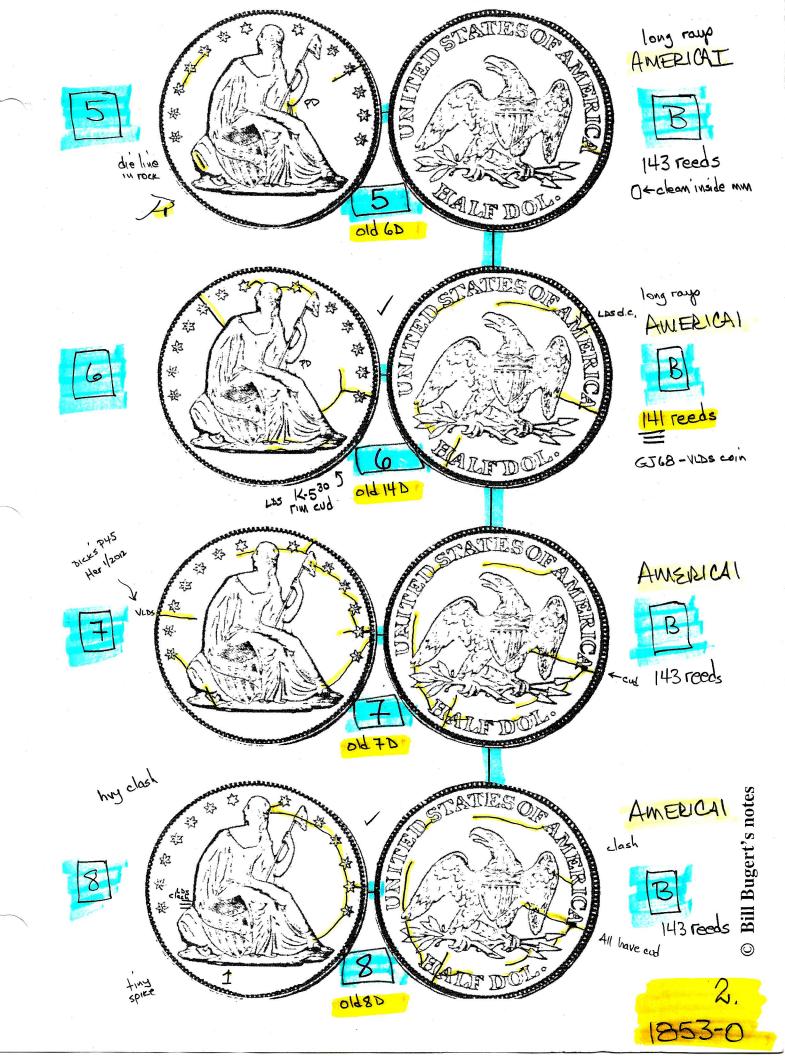


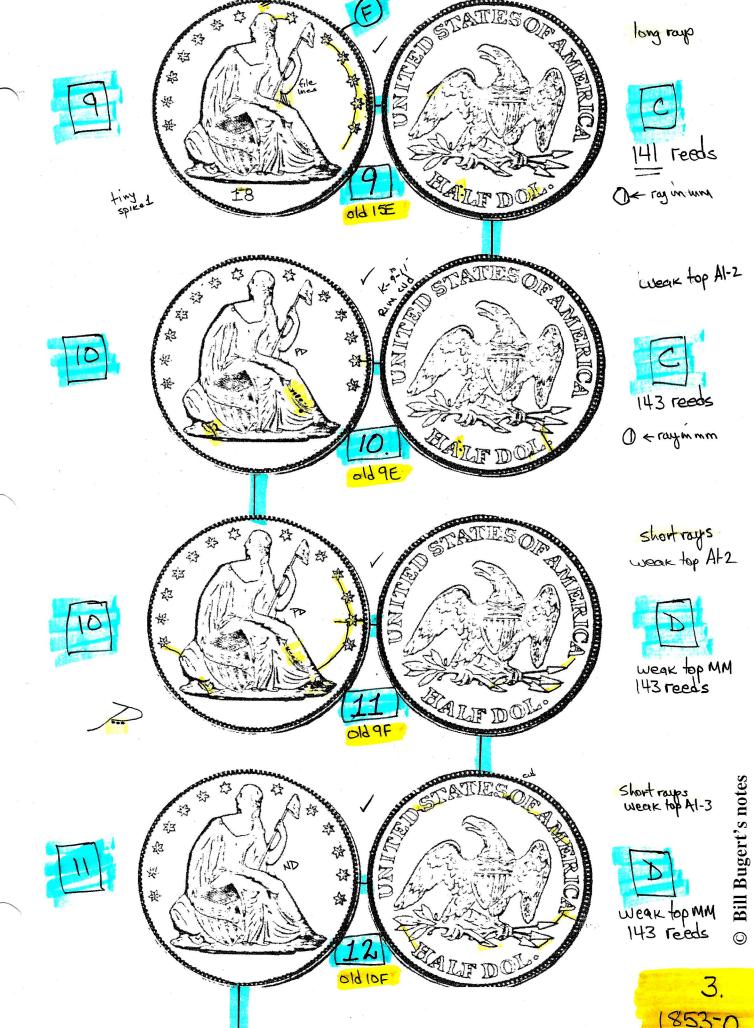


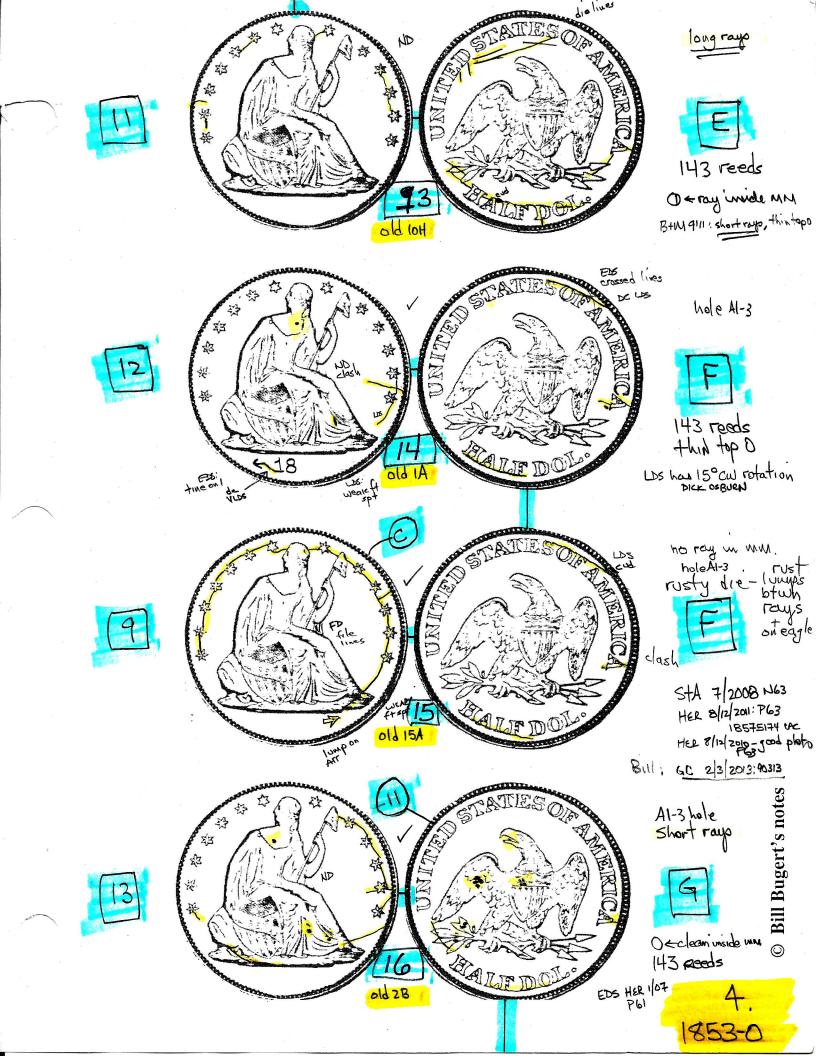


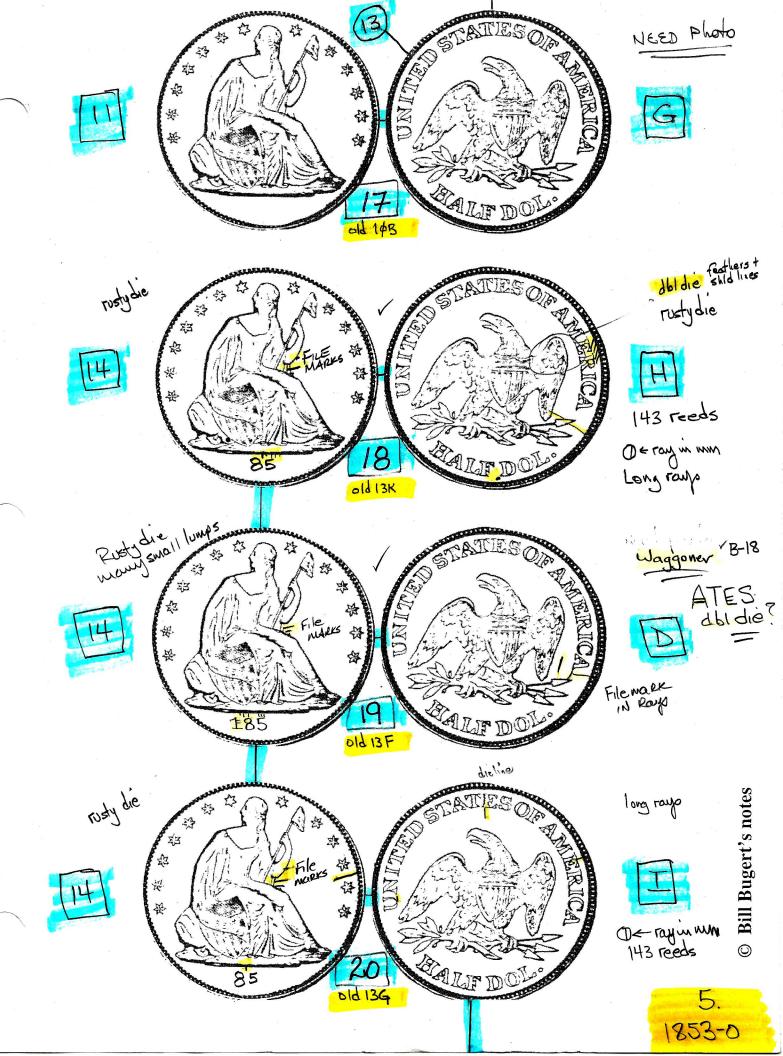
















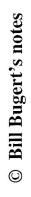


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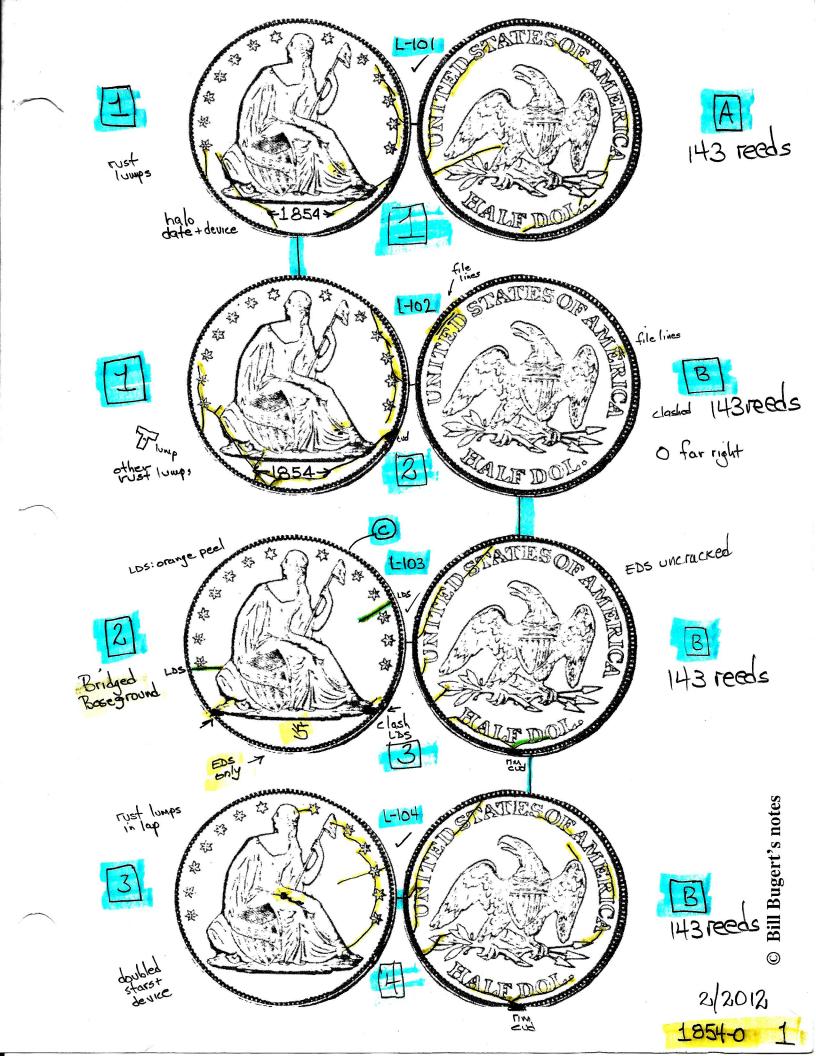
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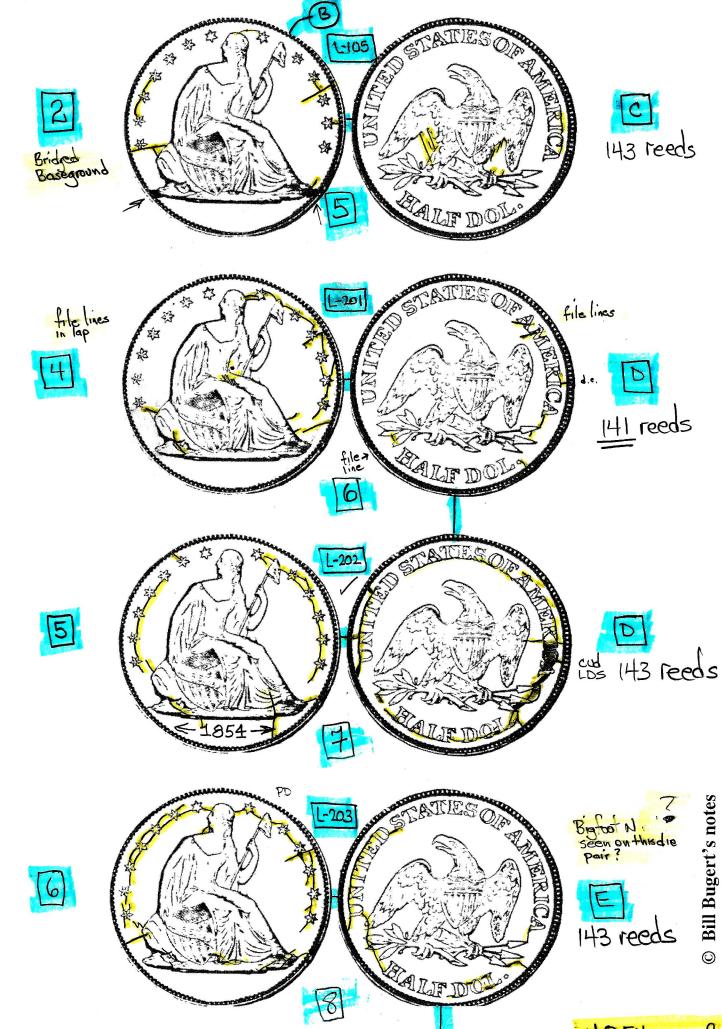
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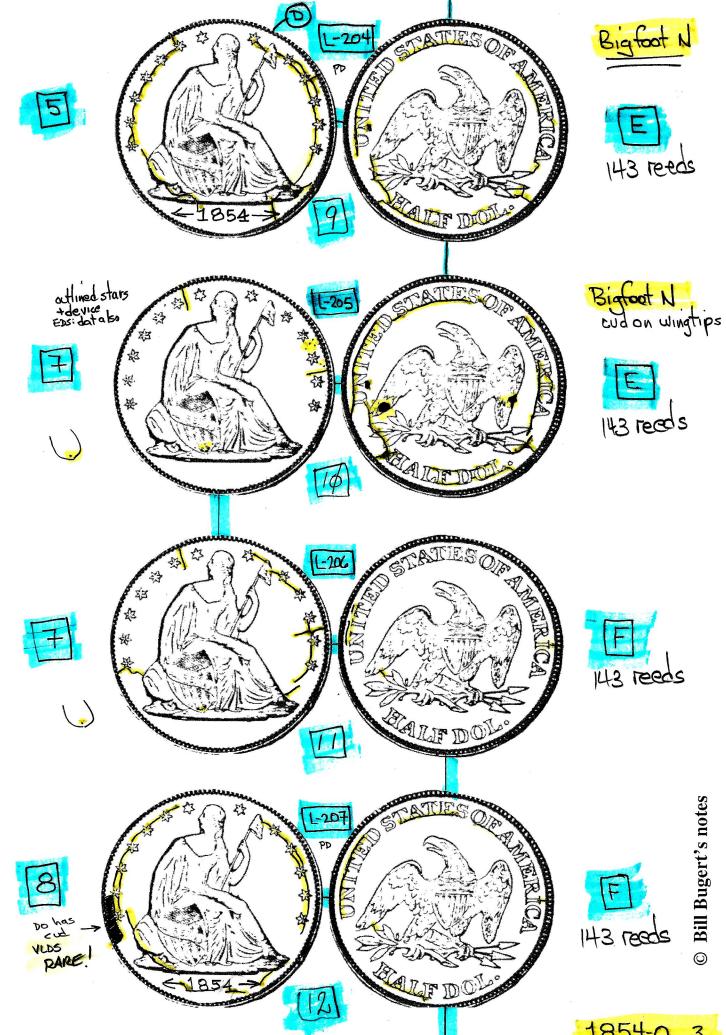


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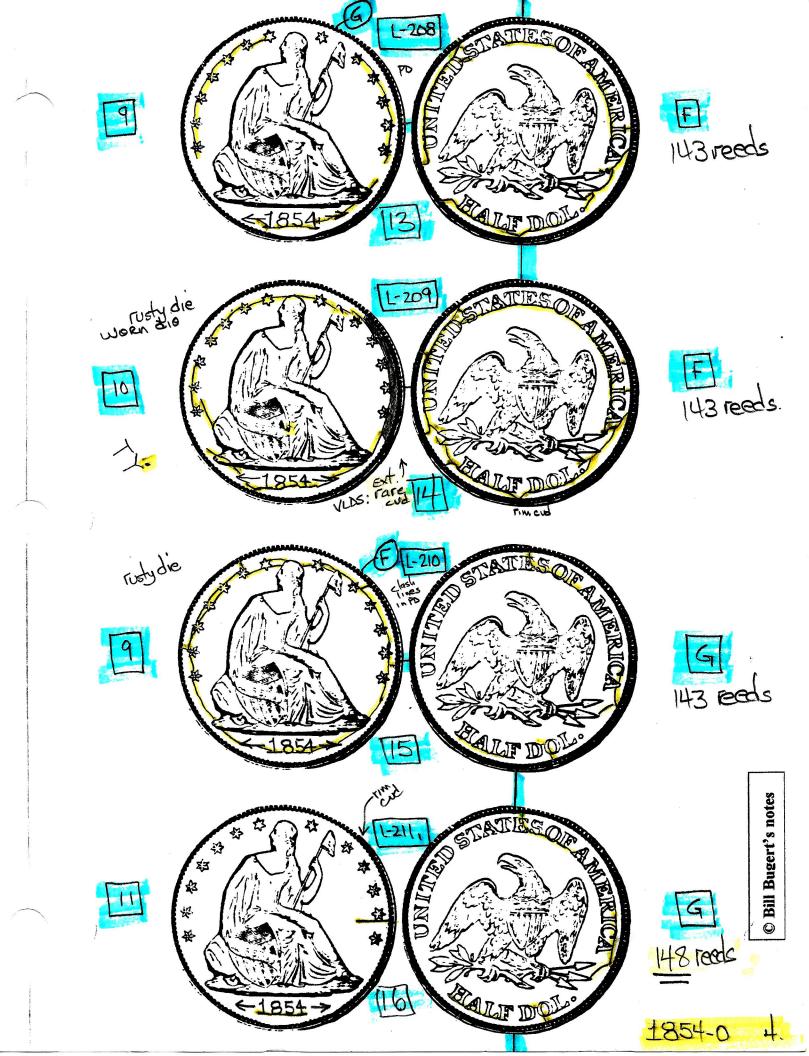




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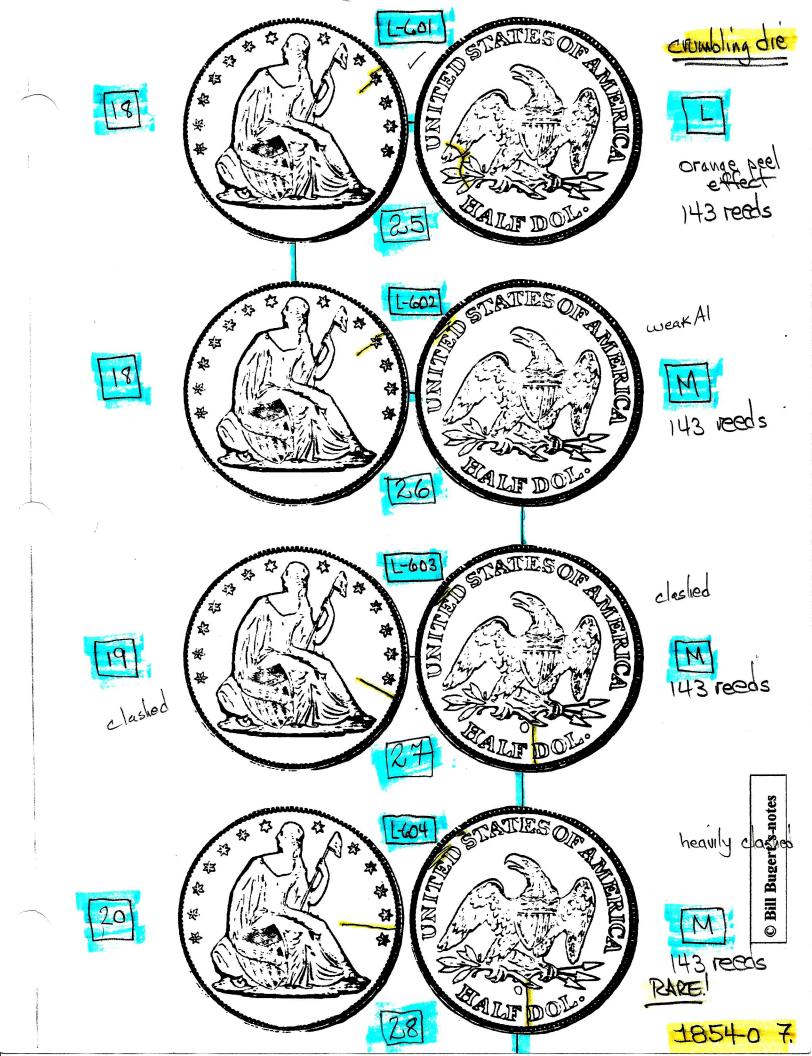


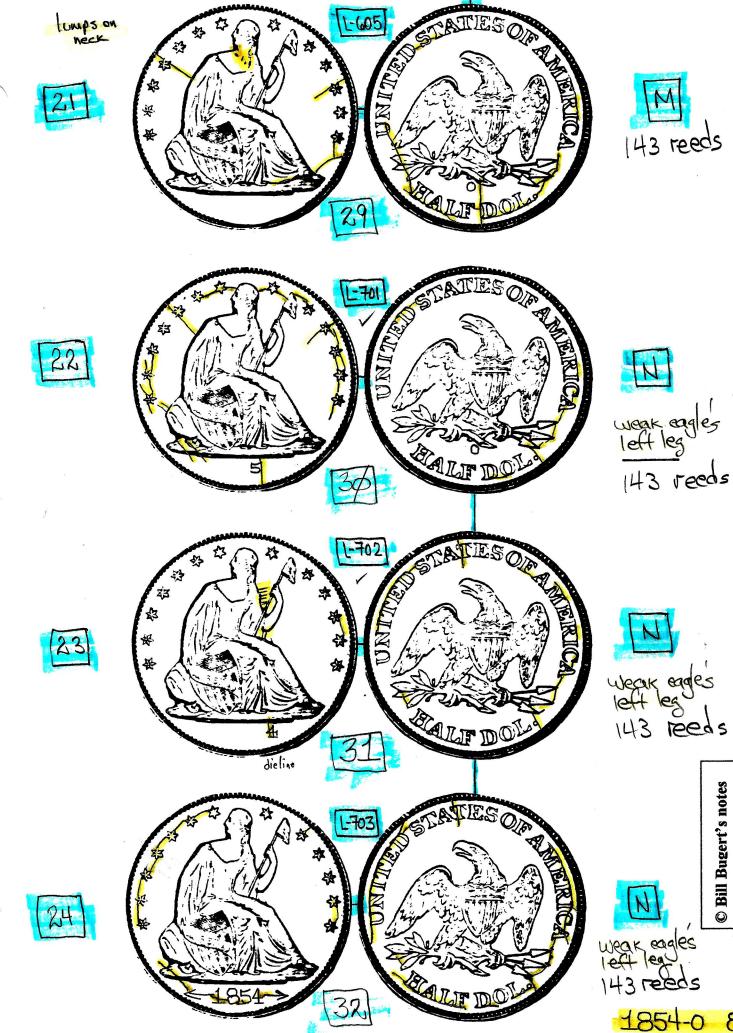
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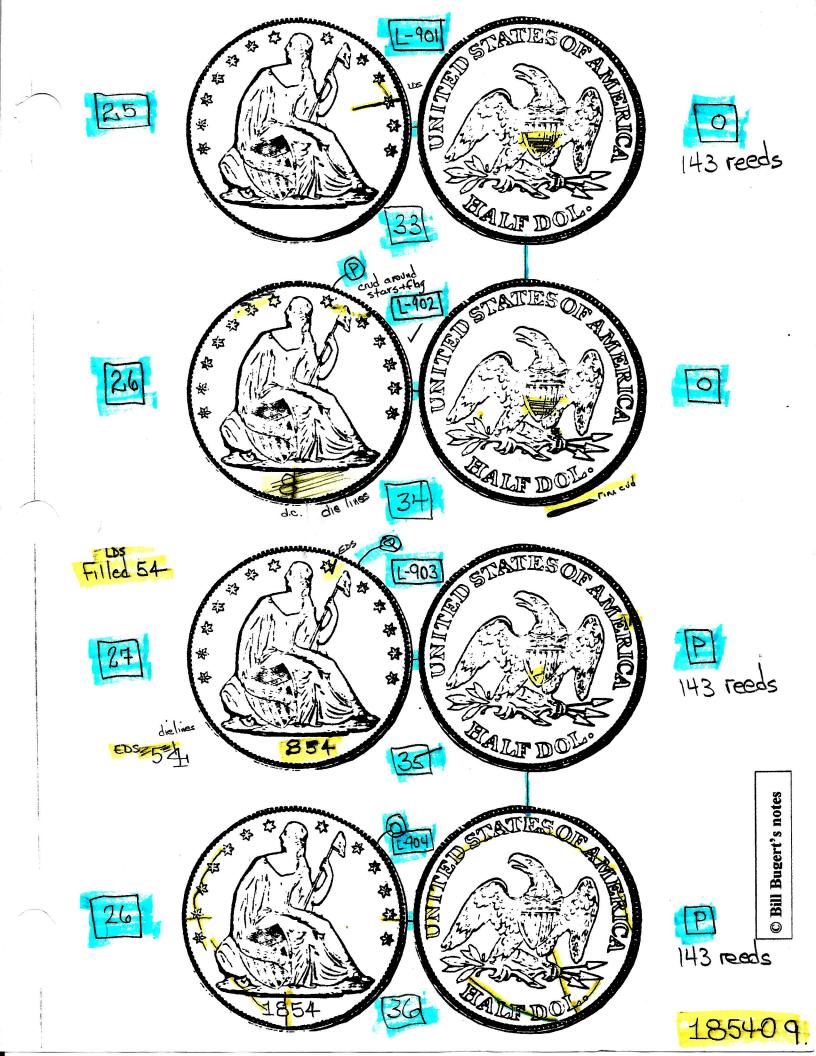


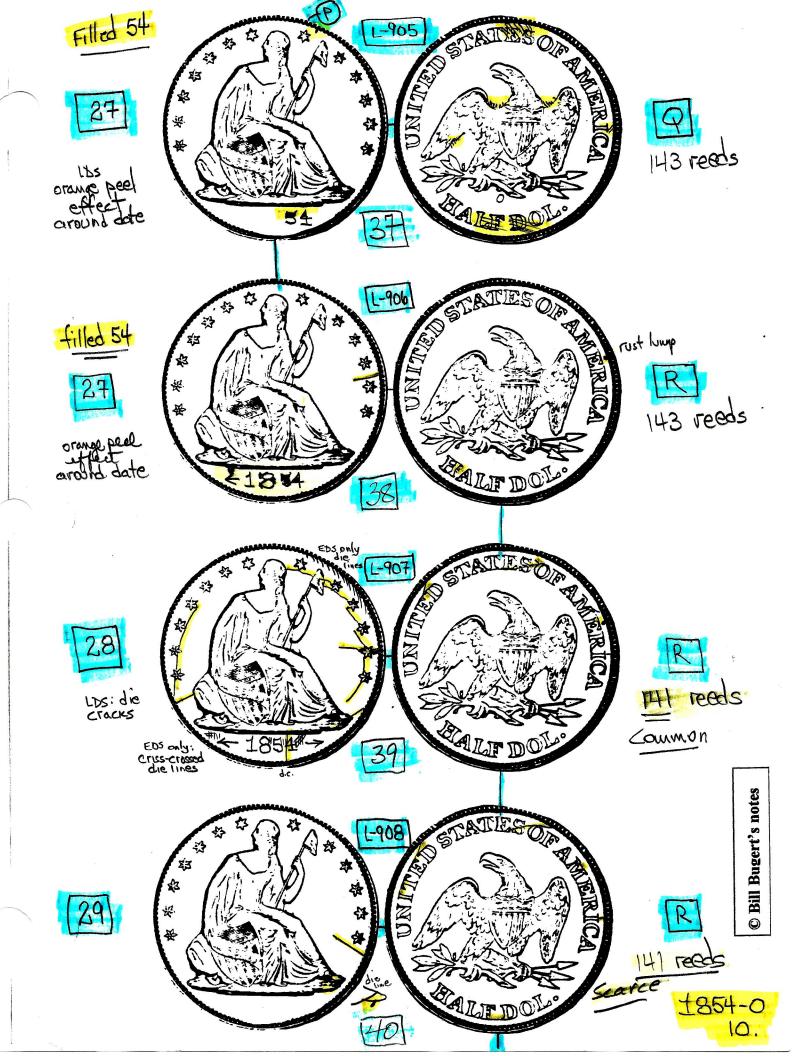


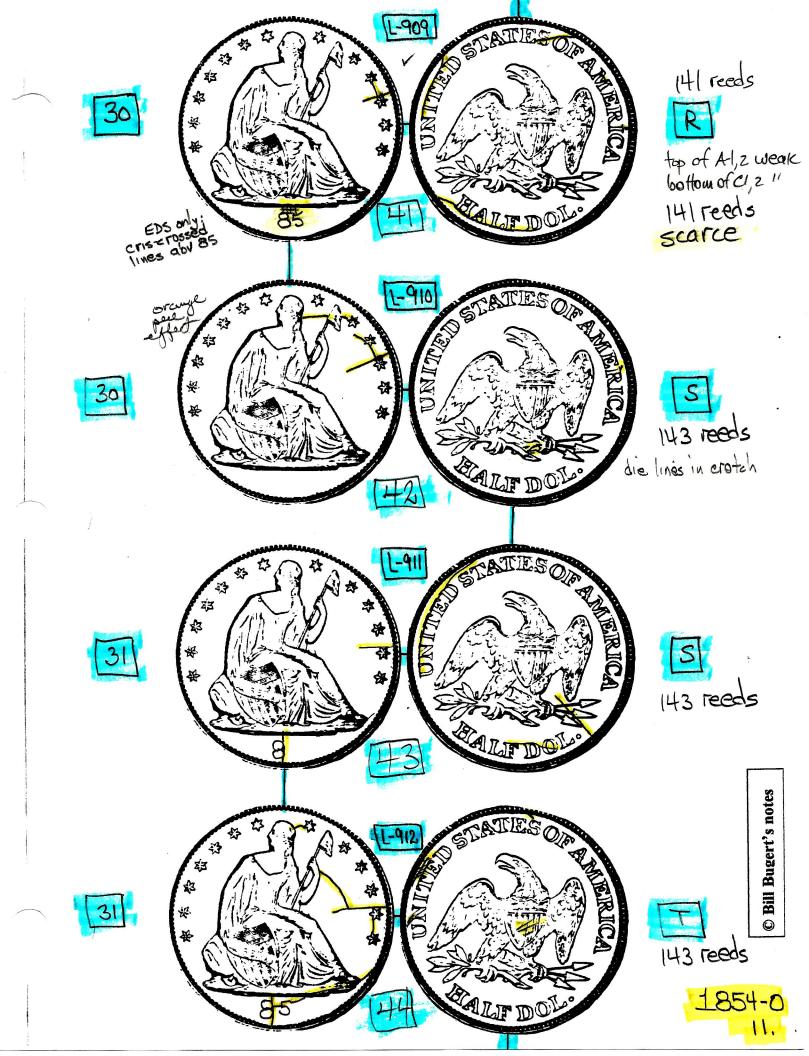




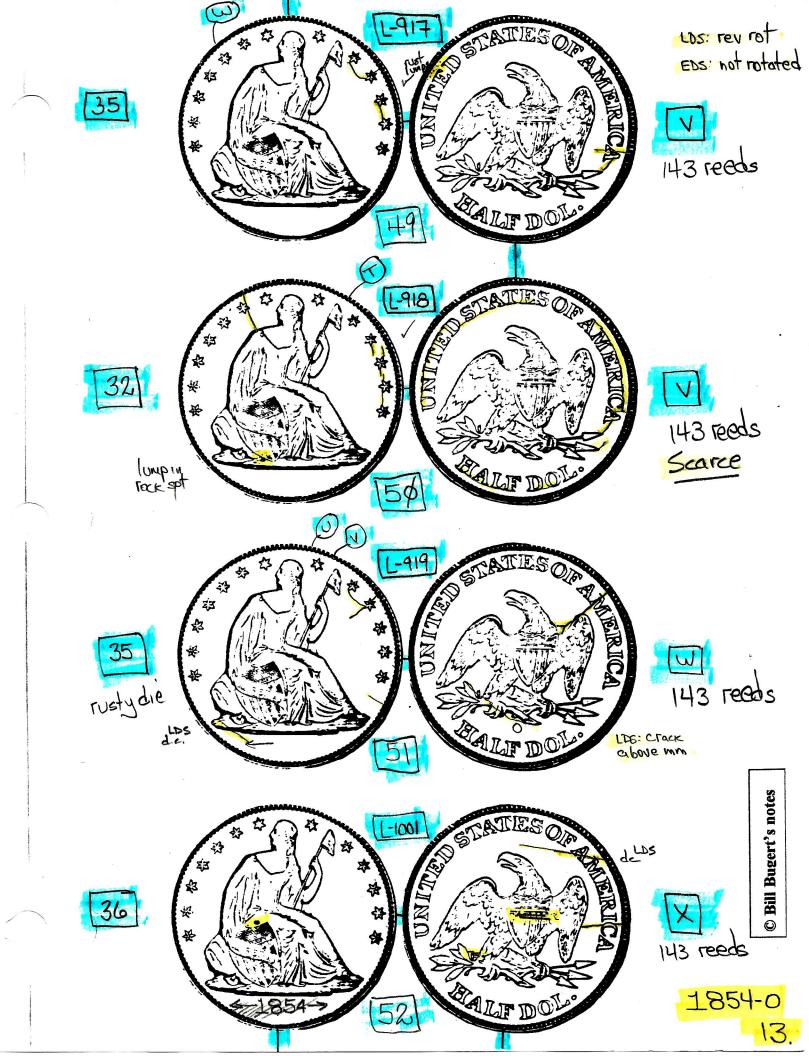
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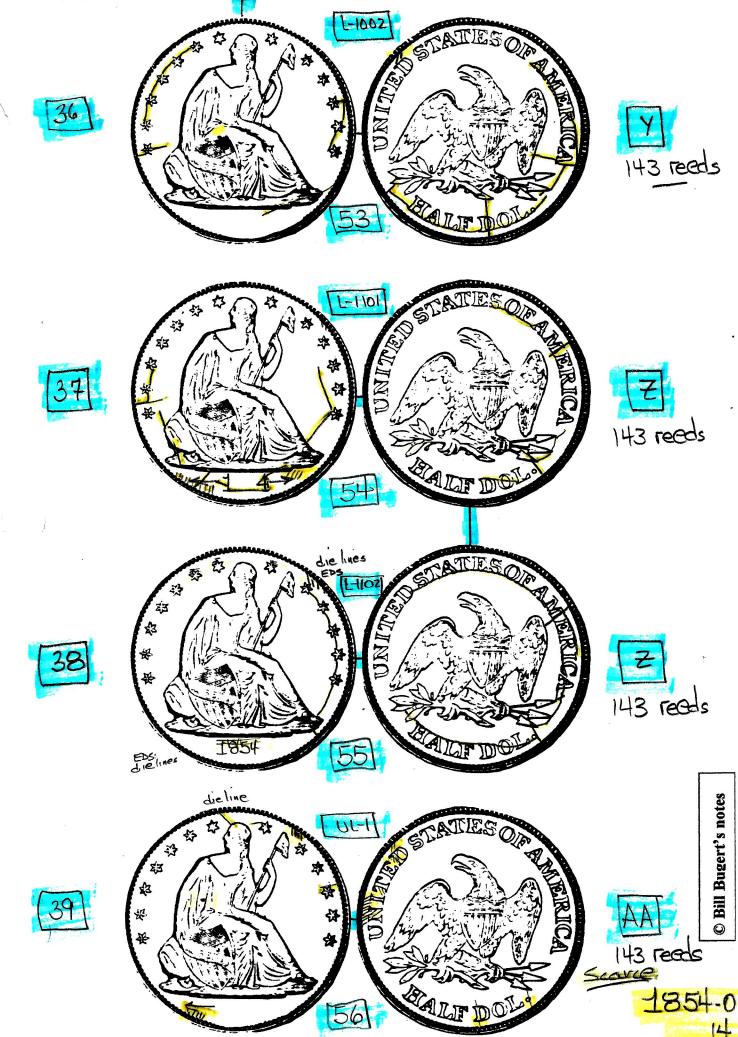














143

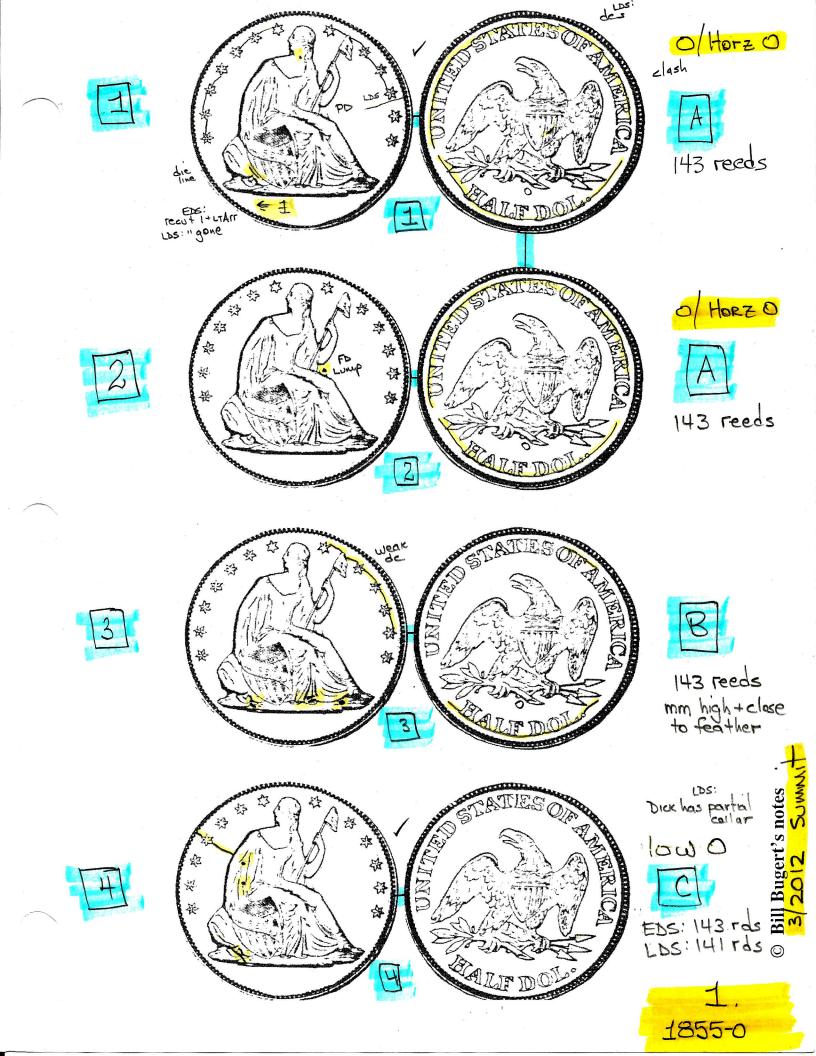
148 LDS

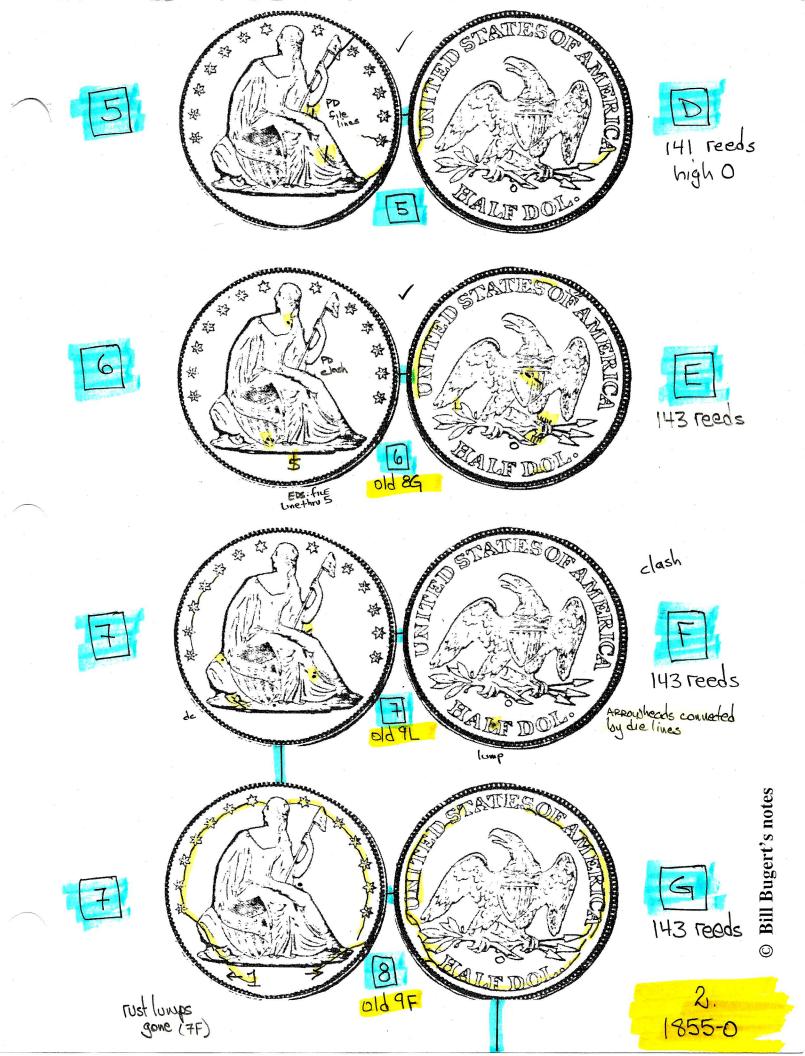
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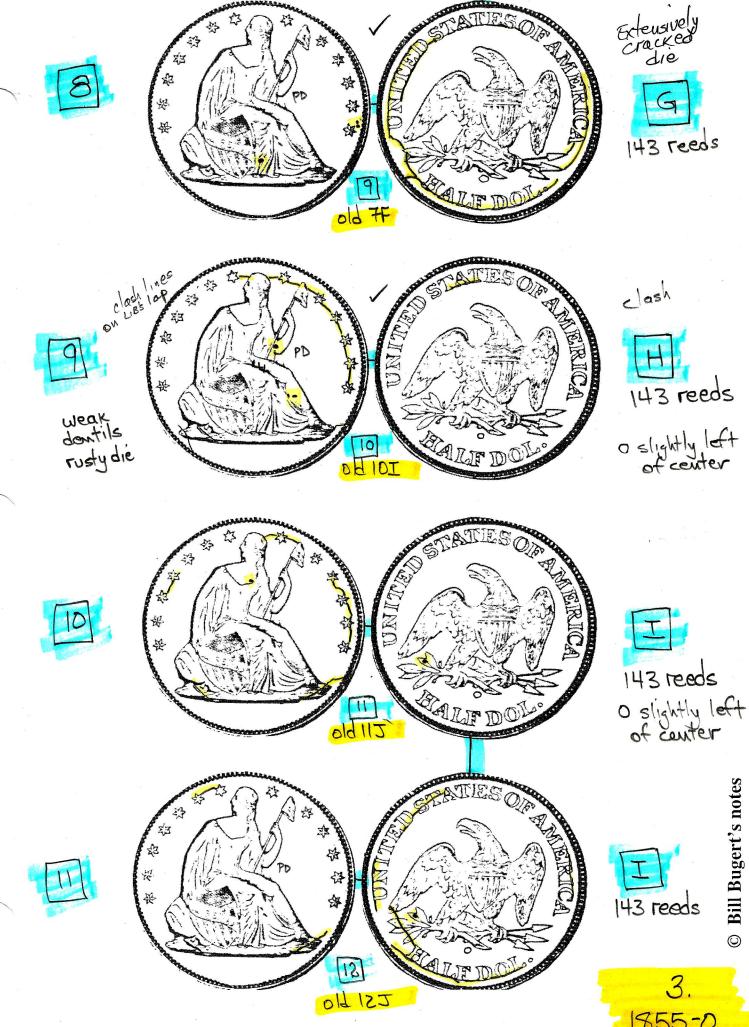


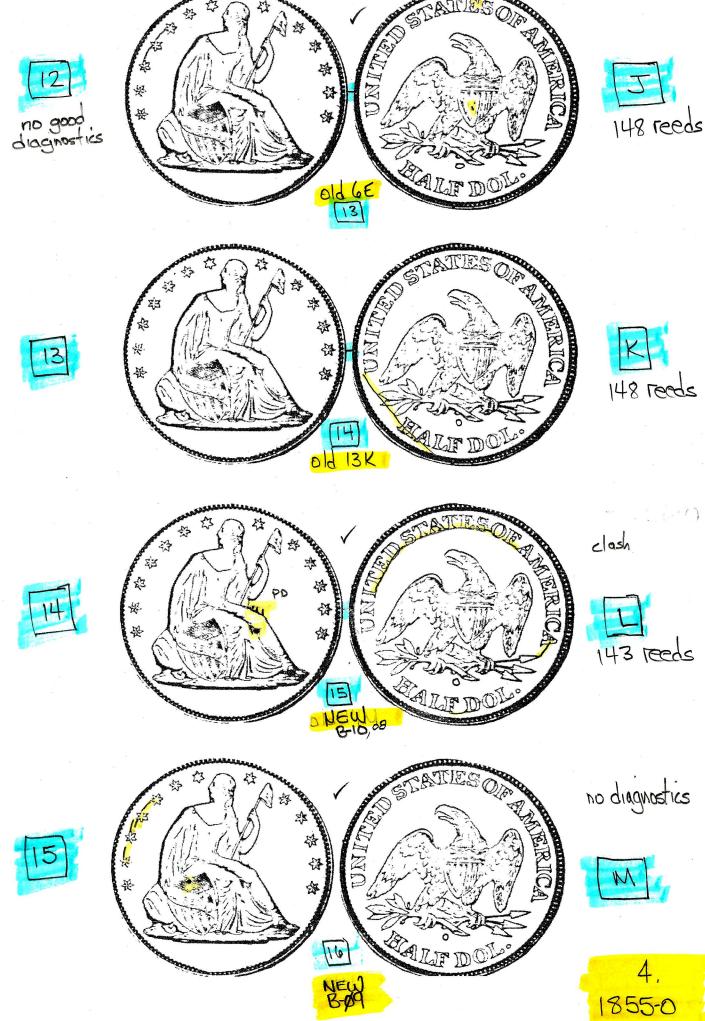
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<u>1</u>854-0



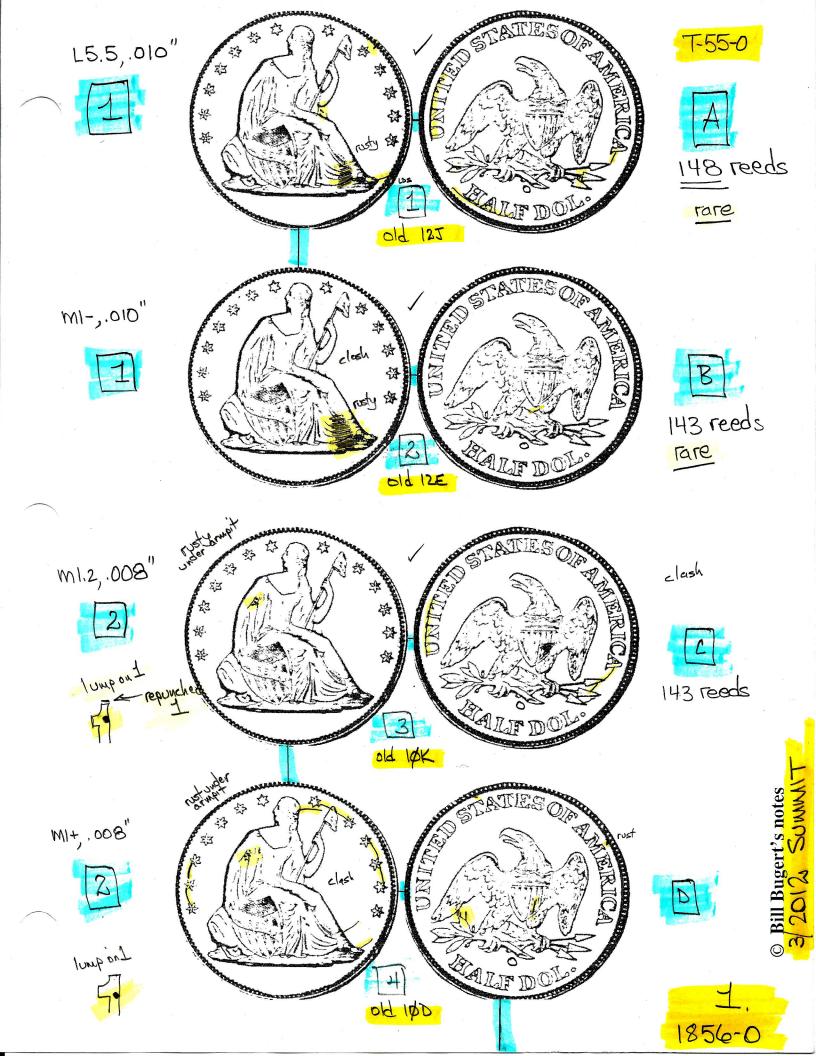


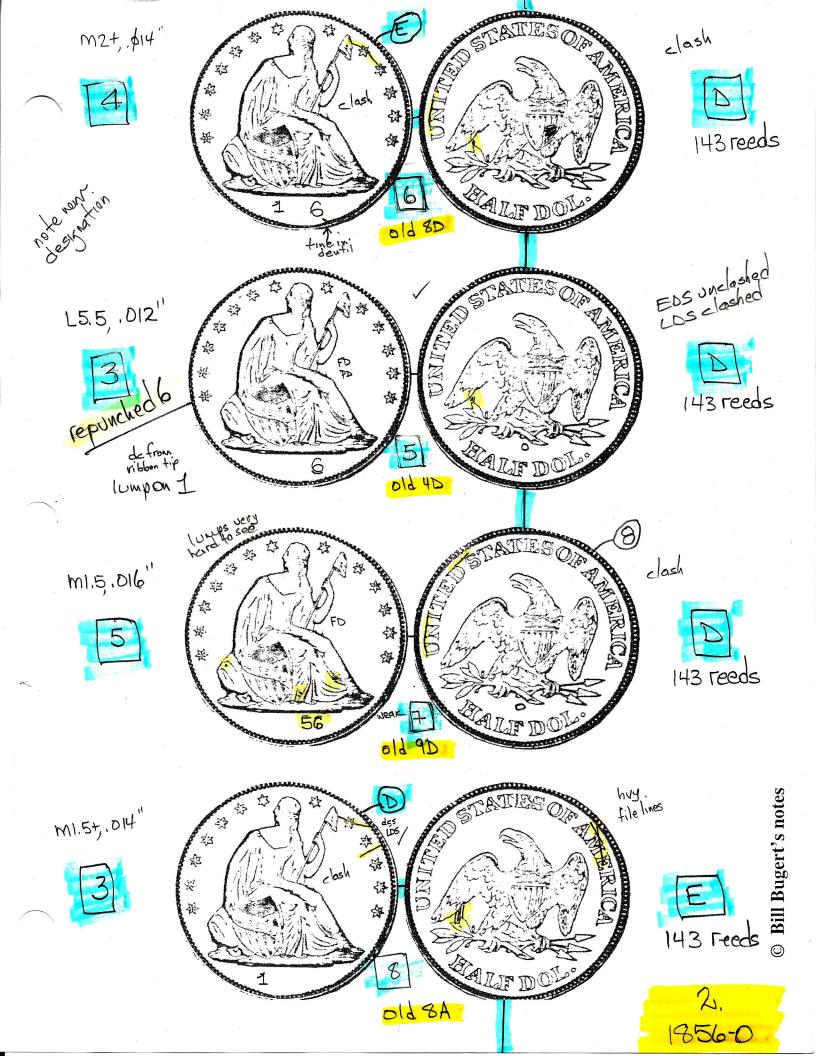


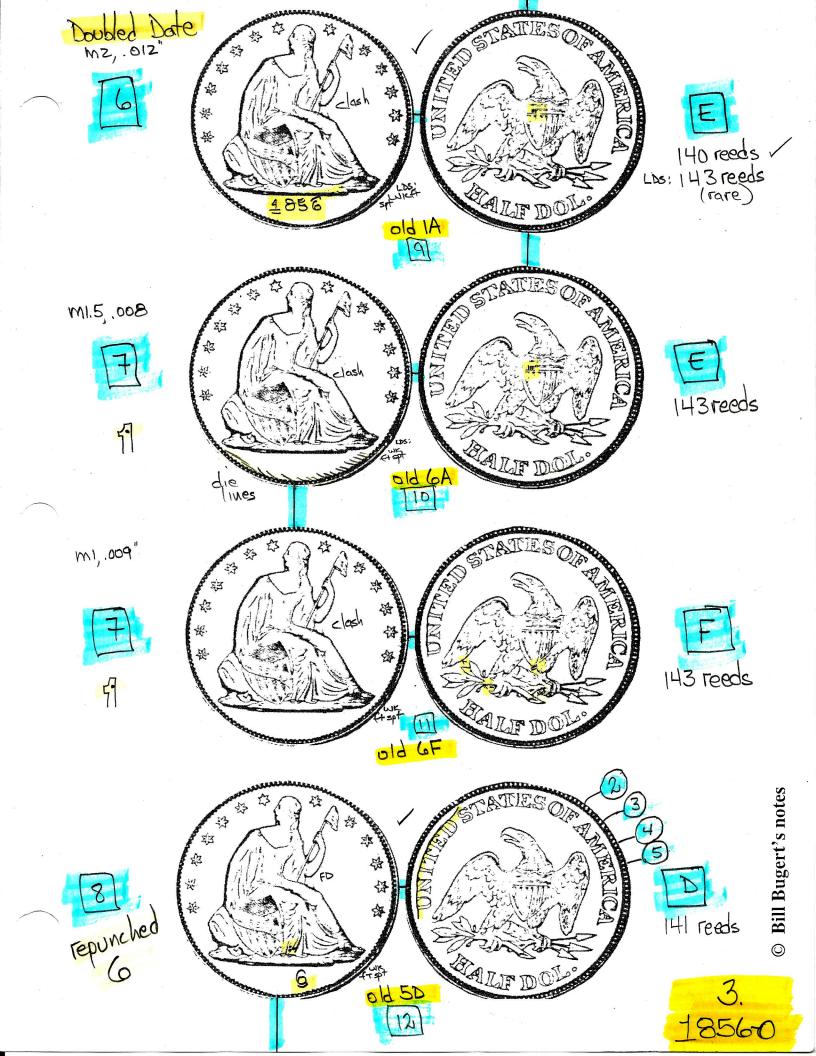


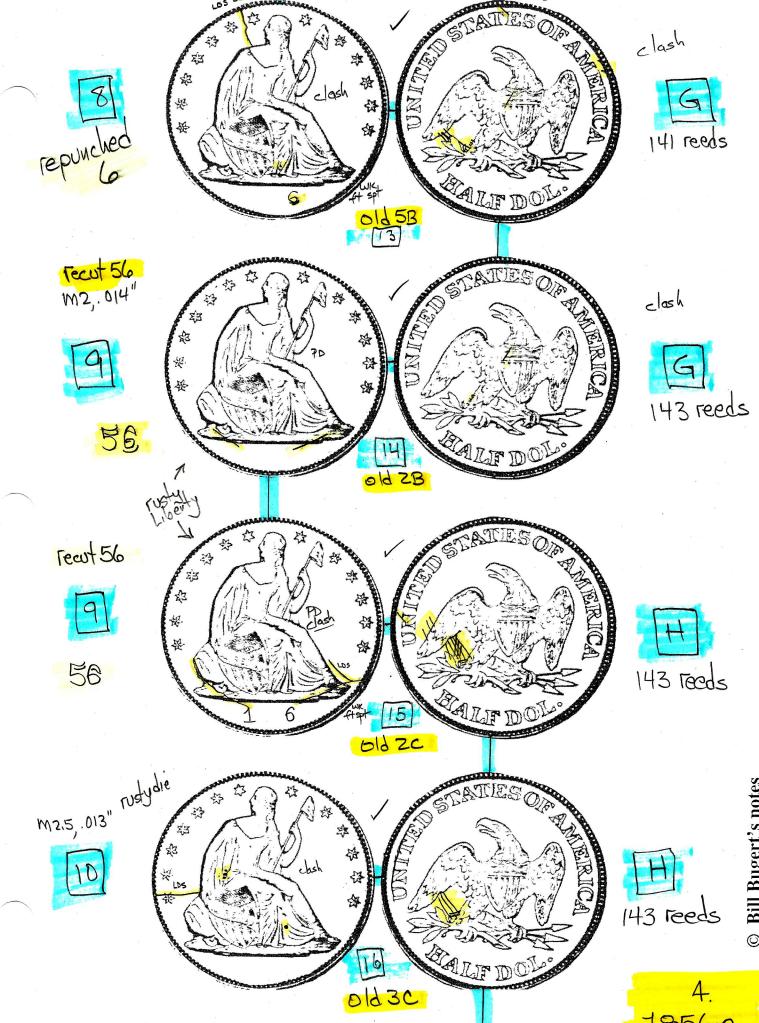
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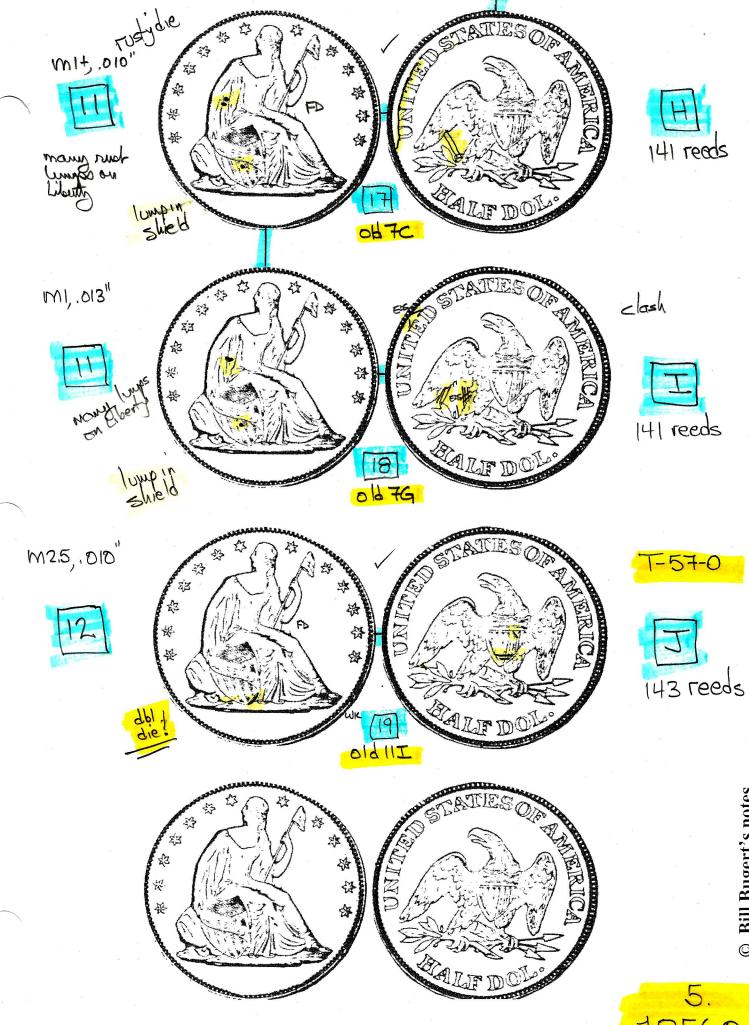






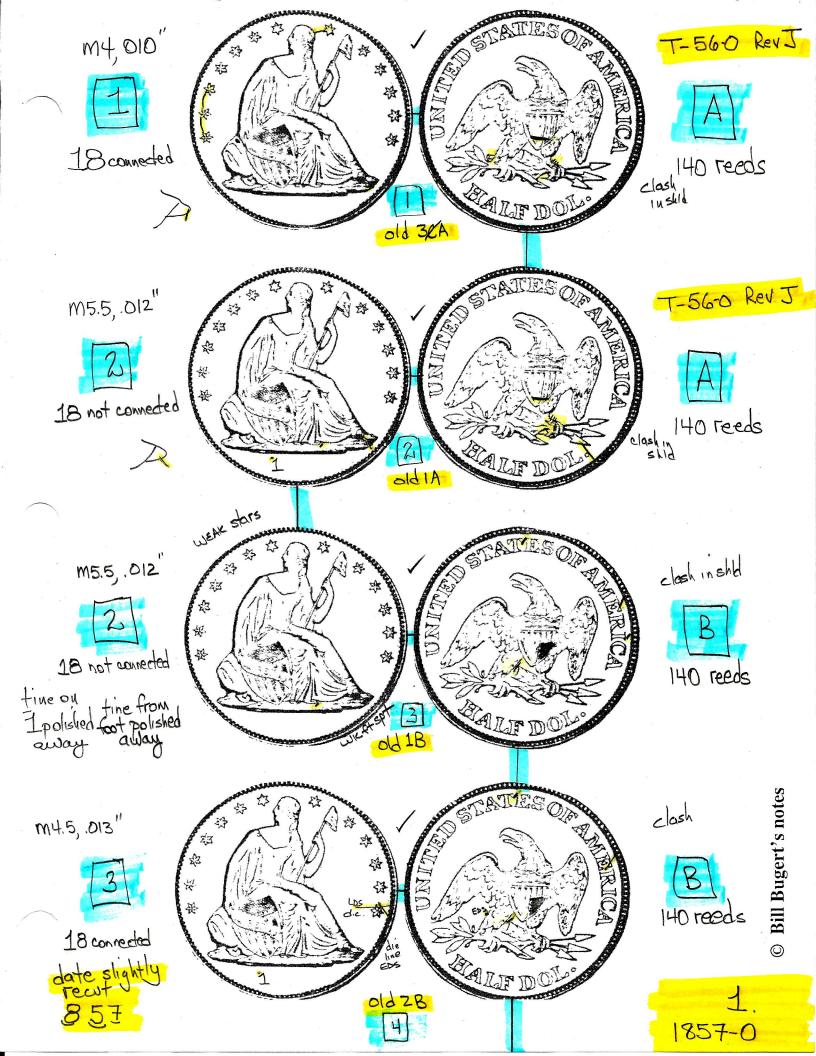


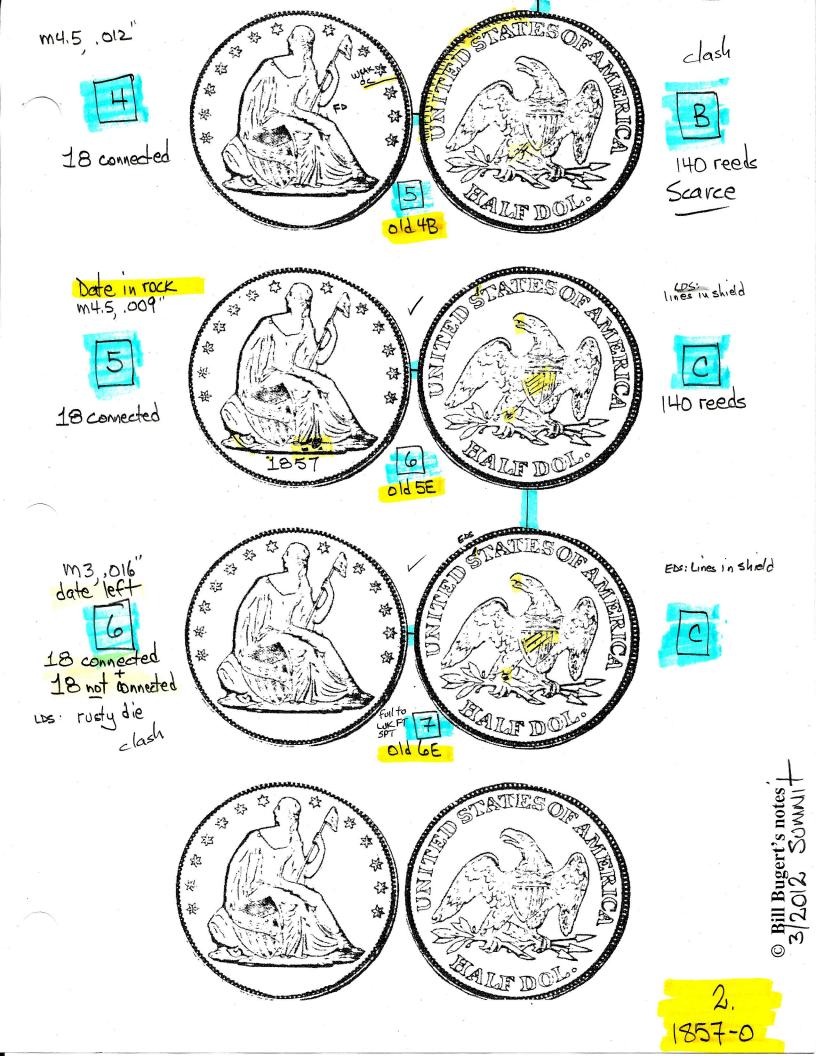
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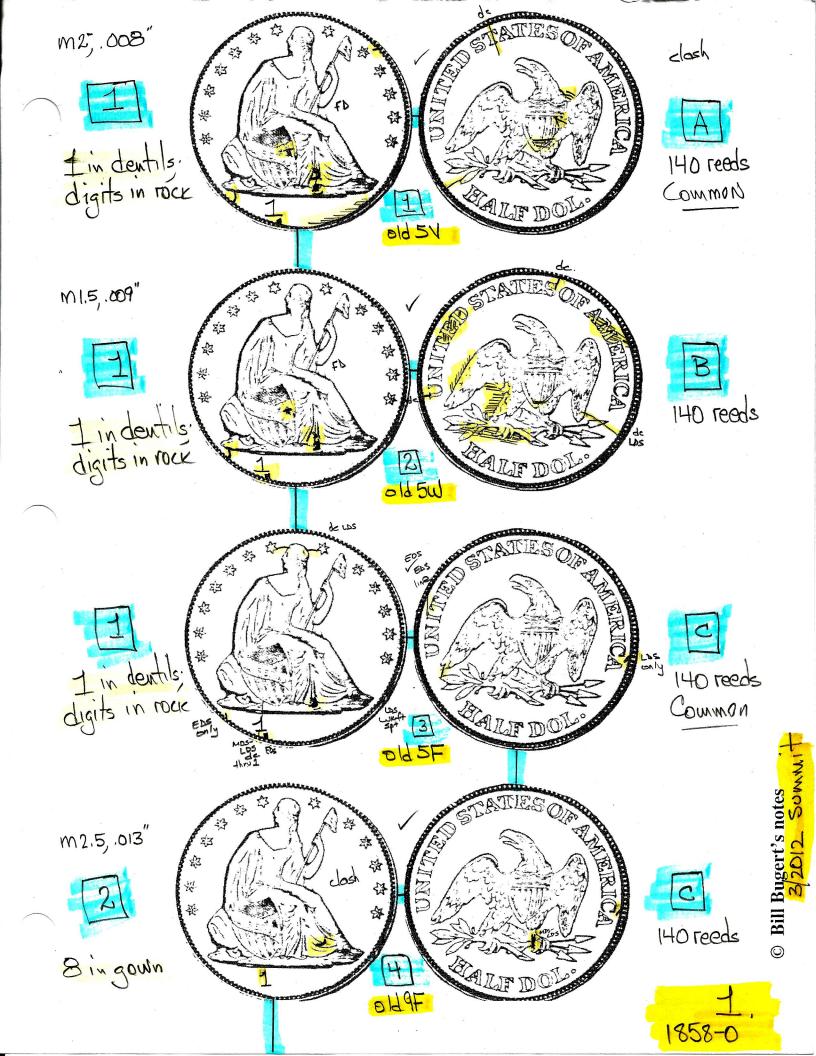


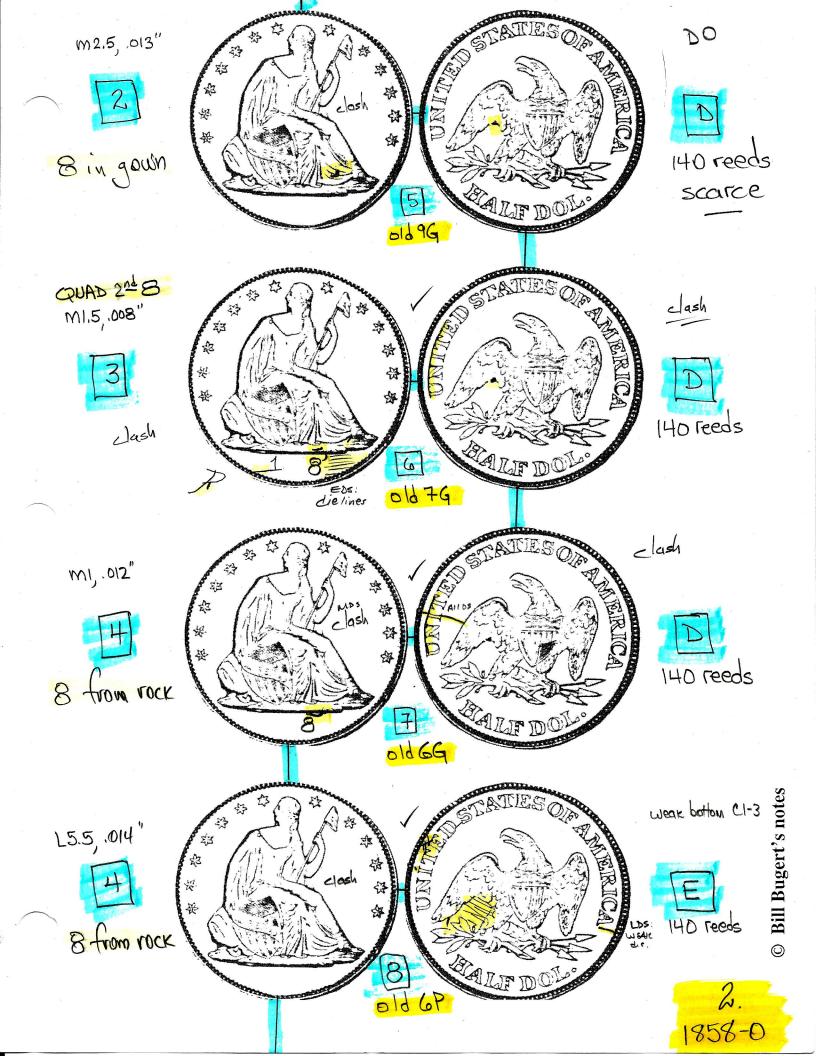
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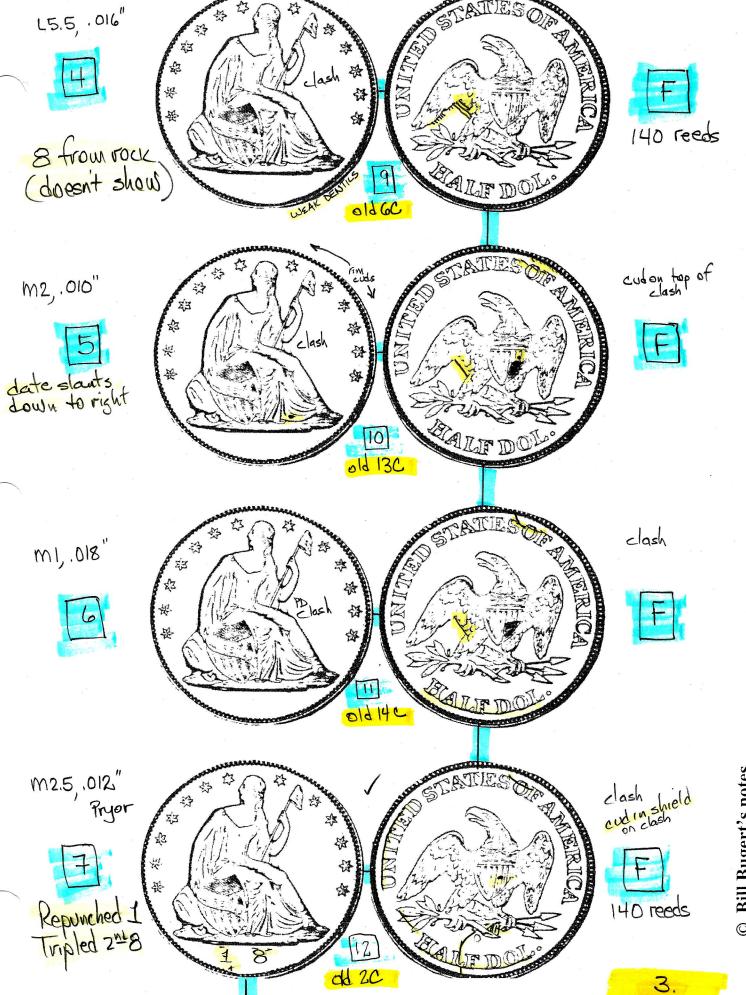
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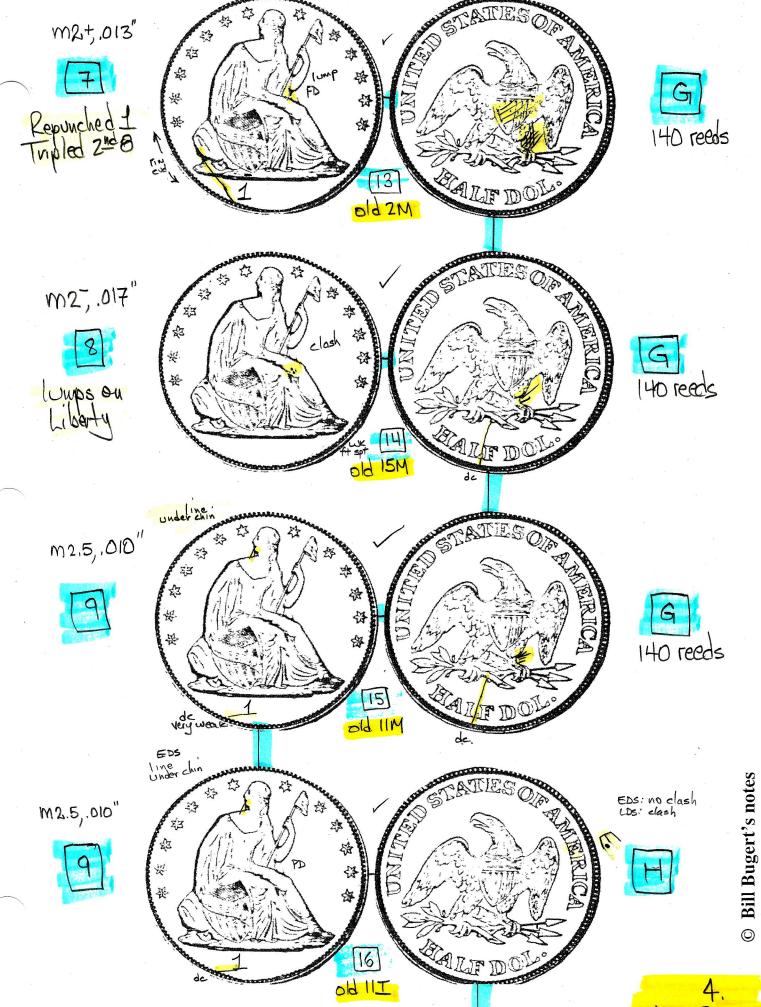


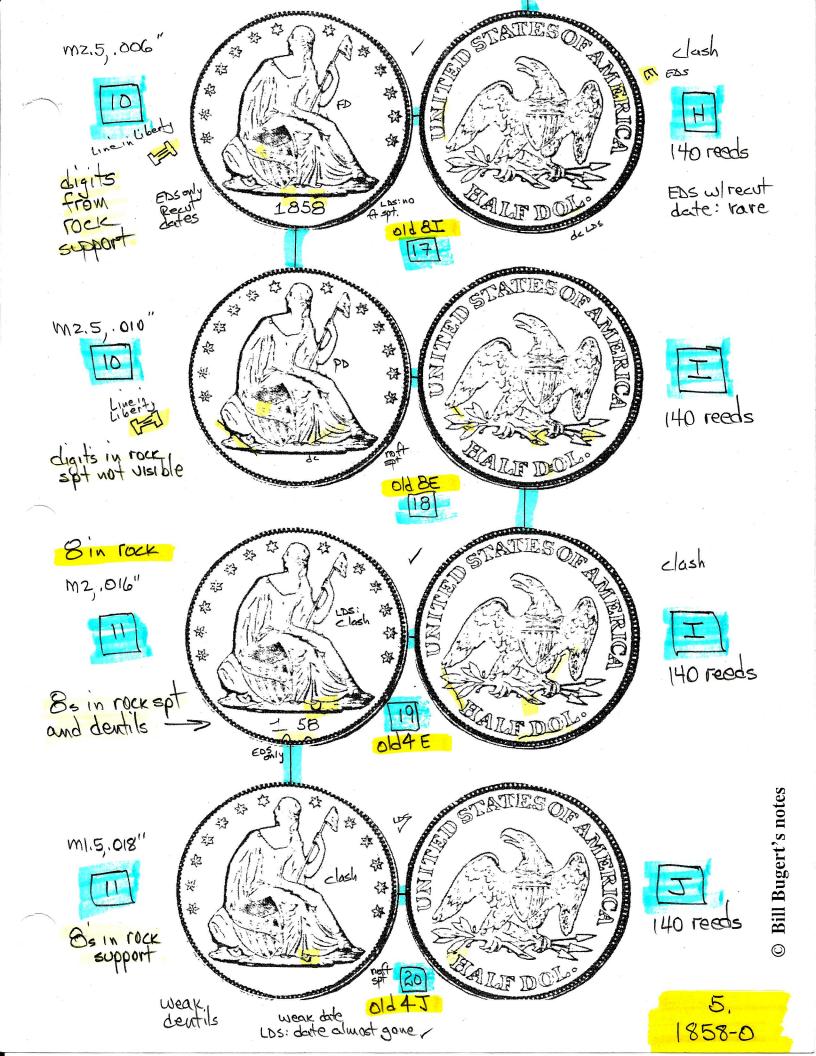


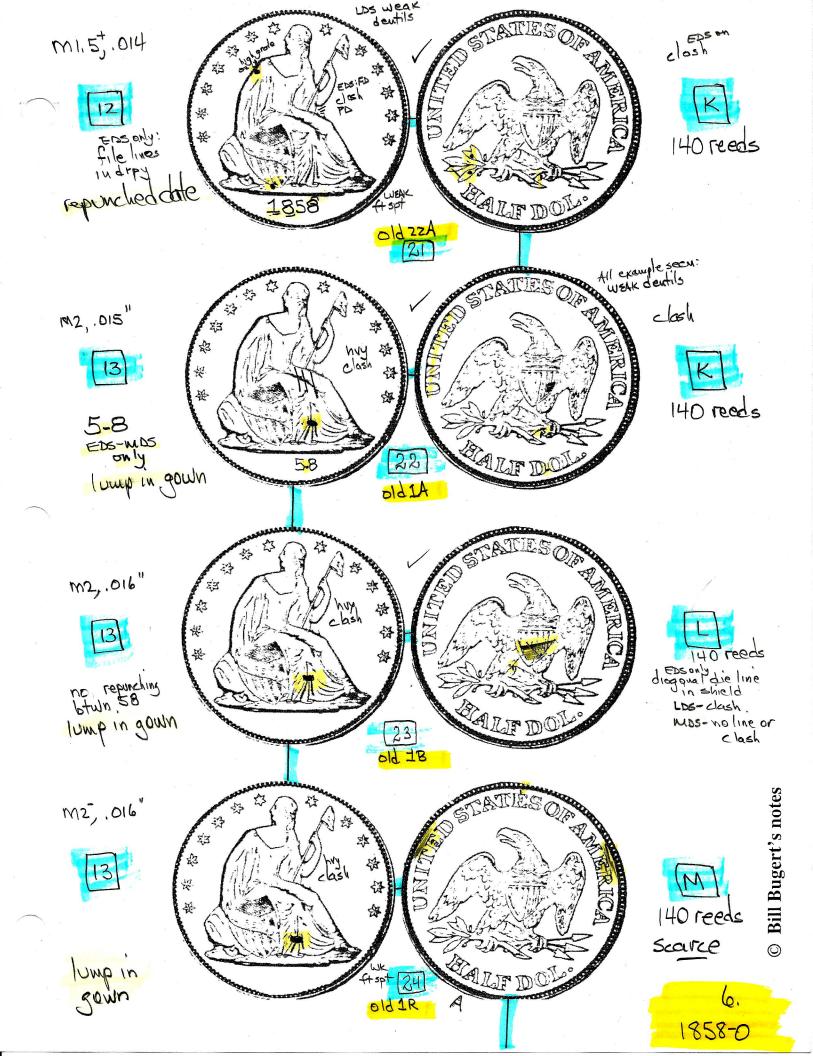


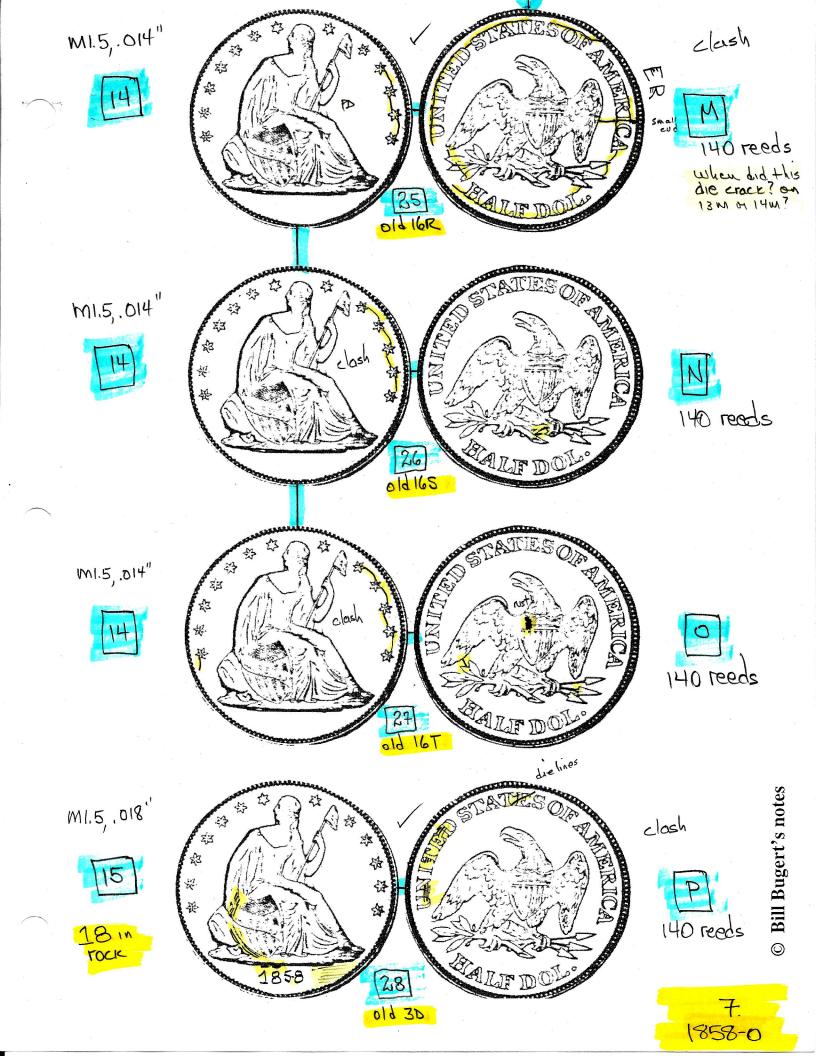
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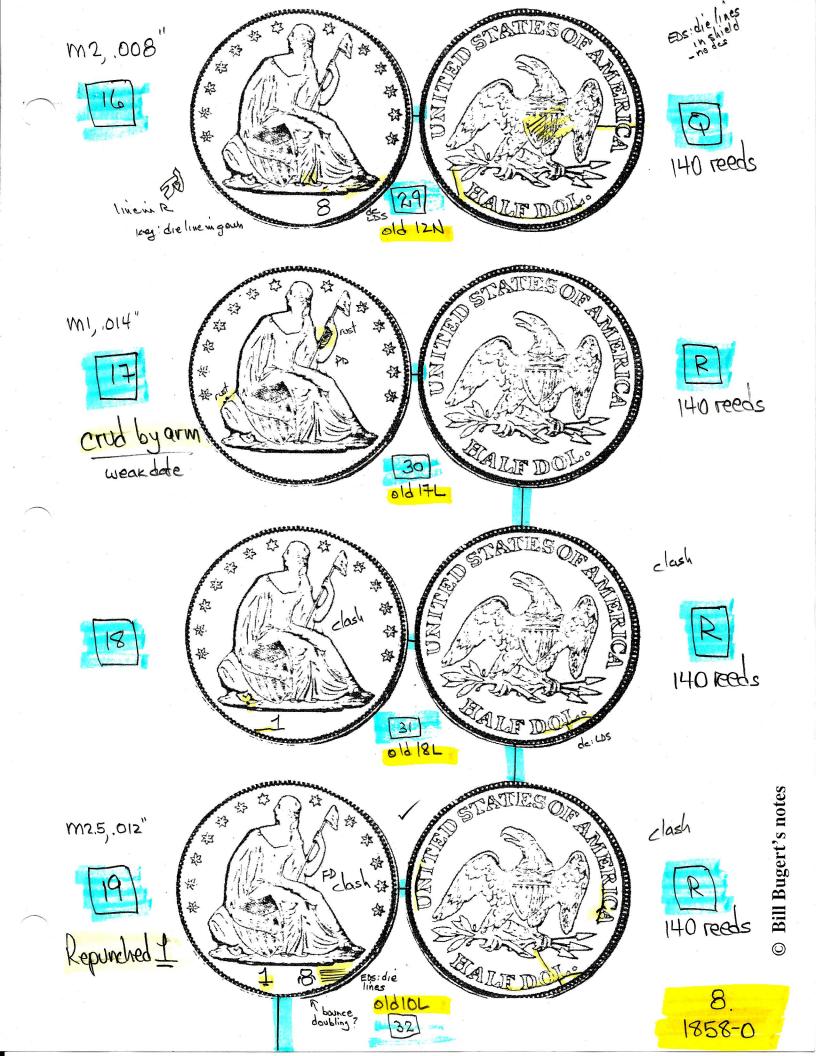
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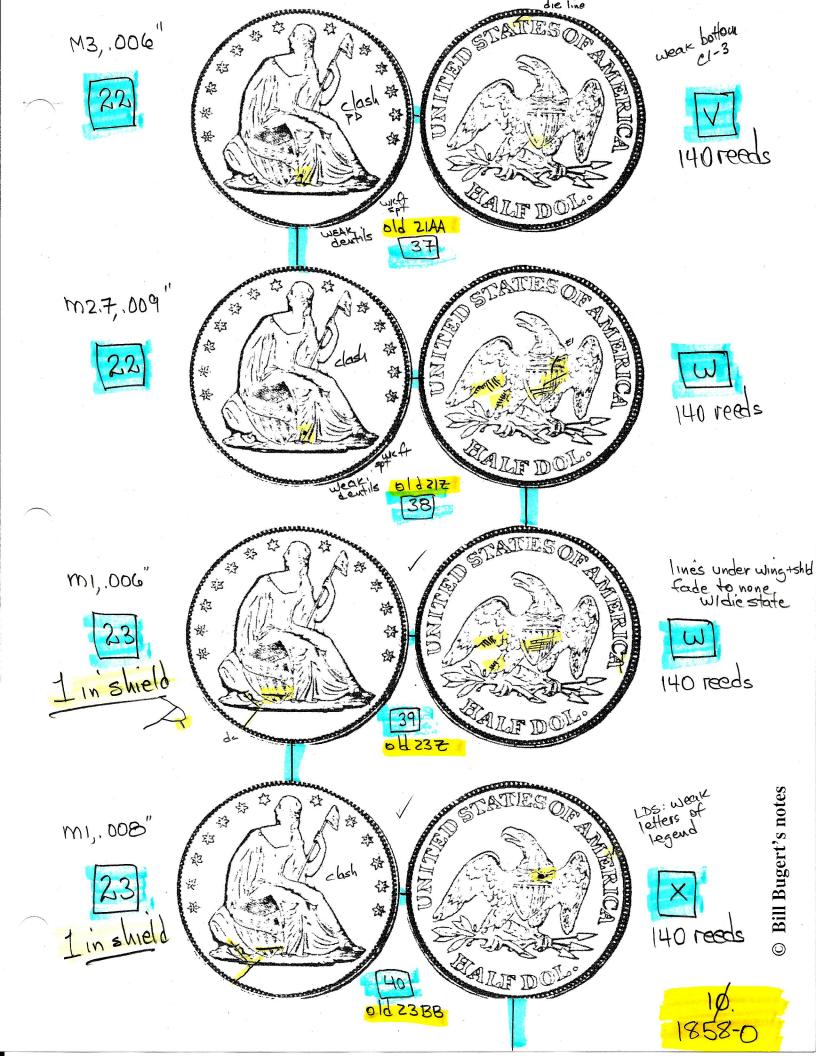








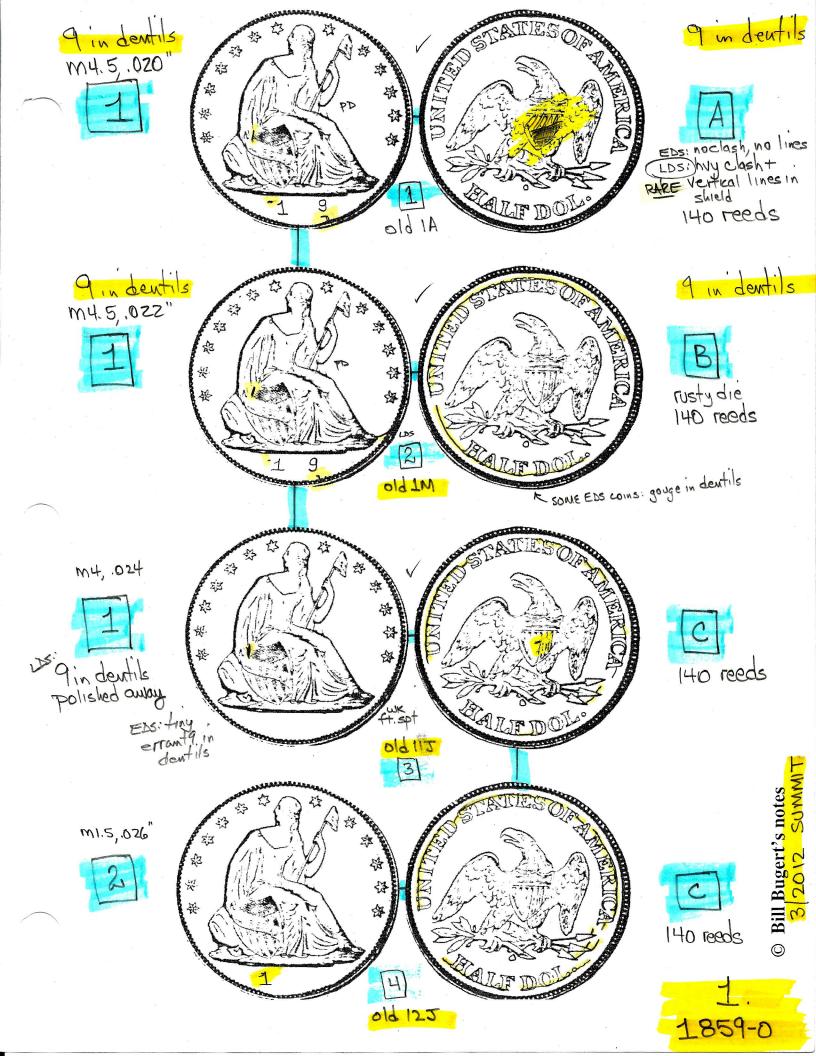


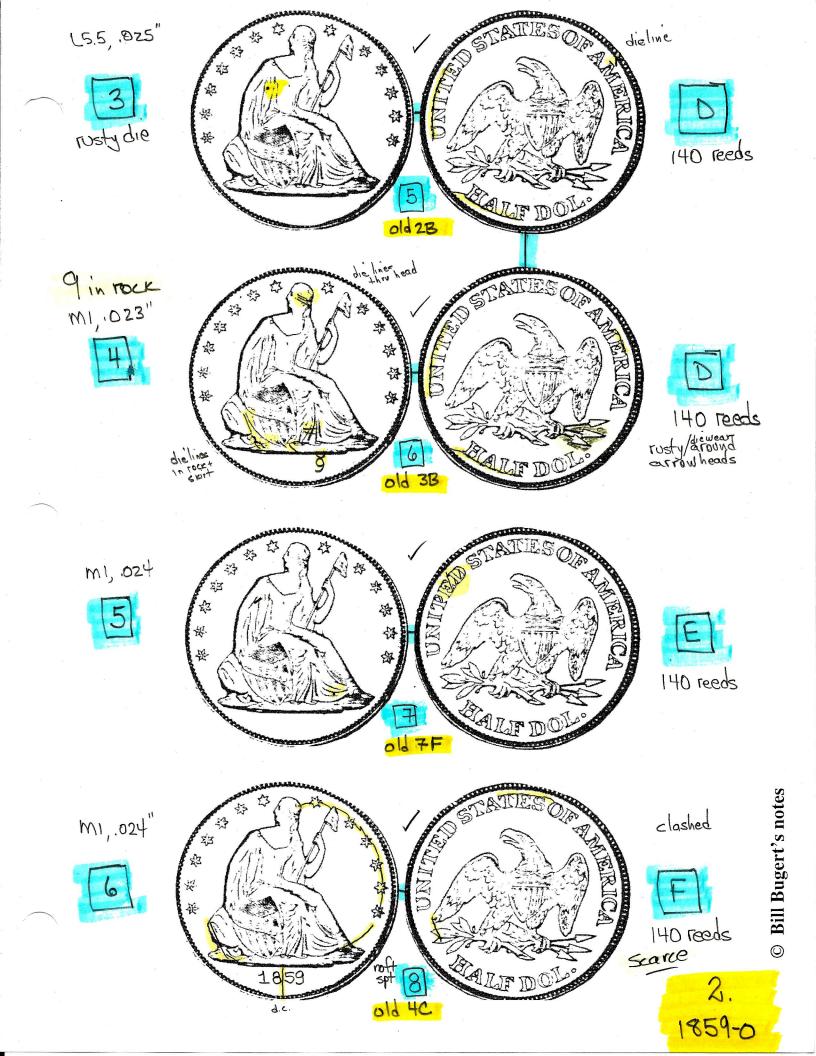


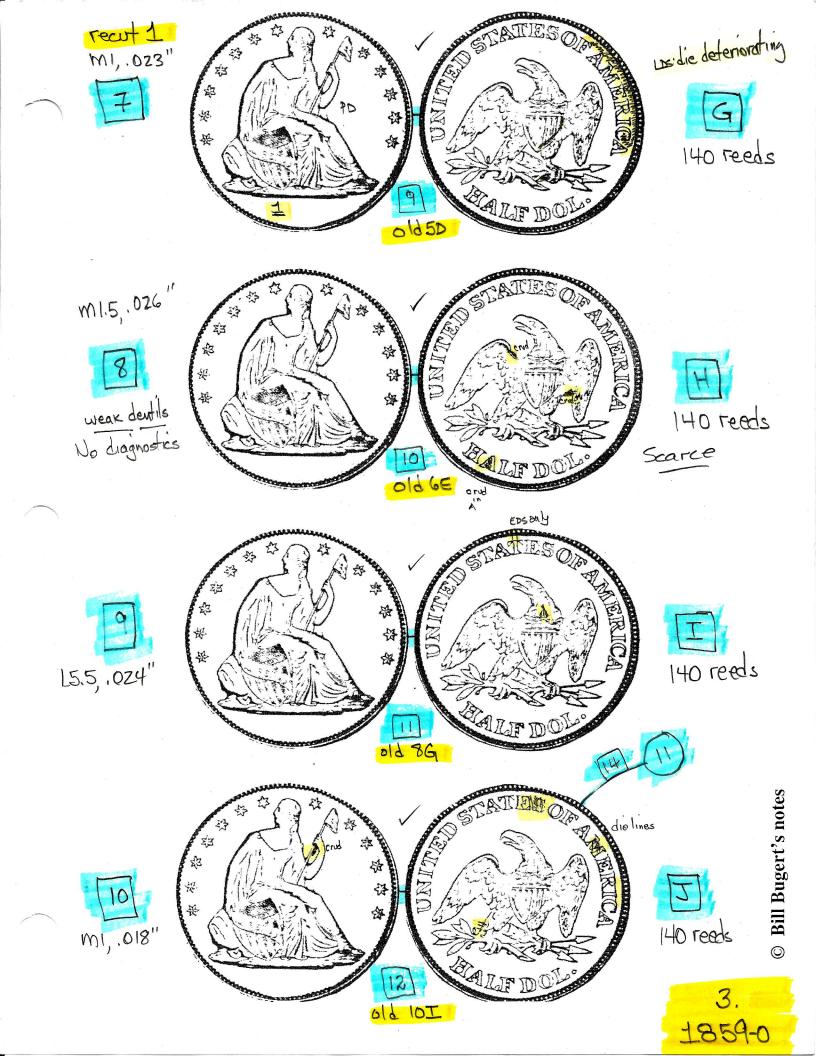


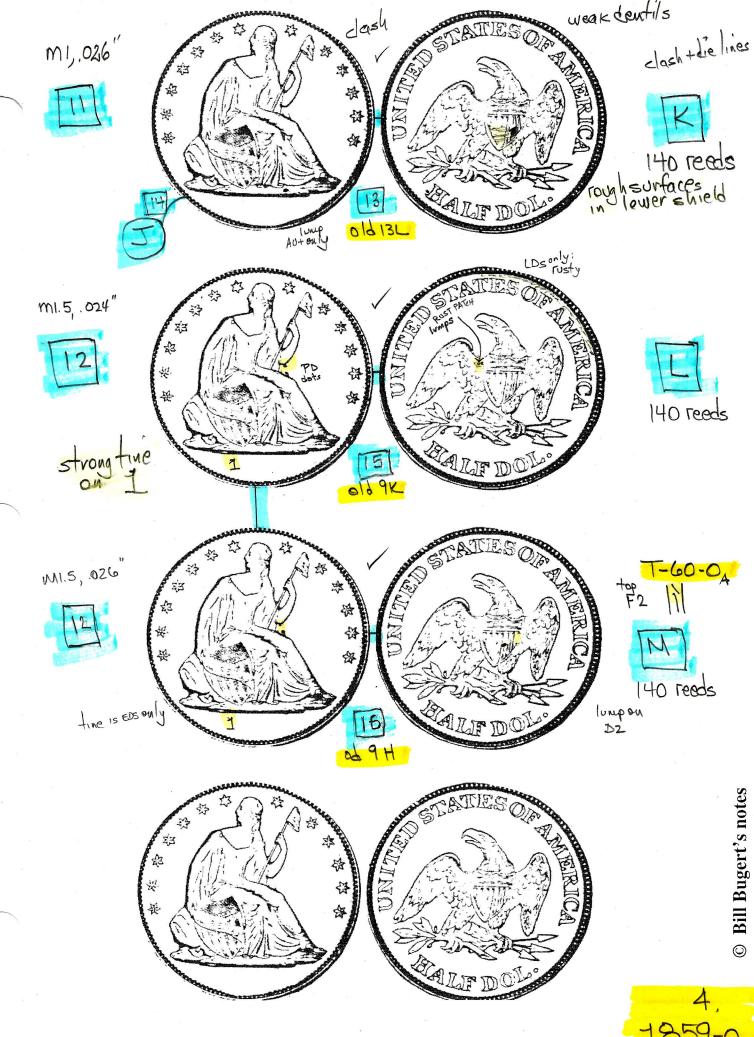
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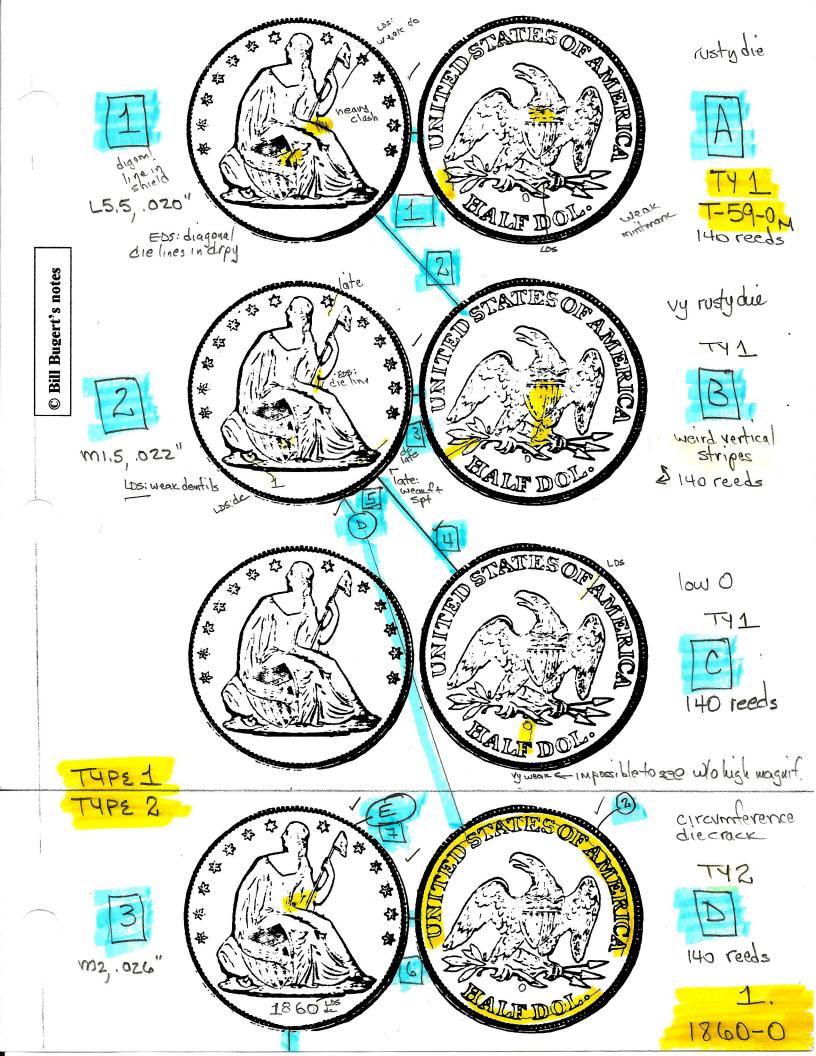
1858-0

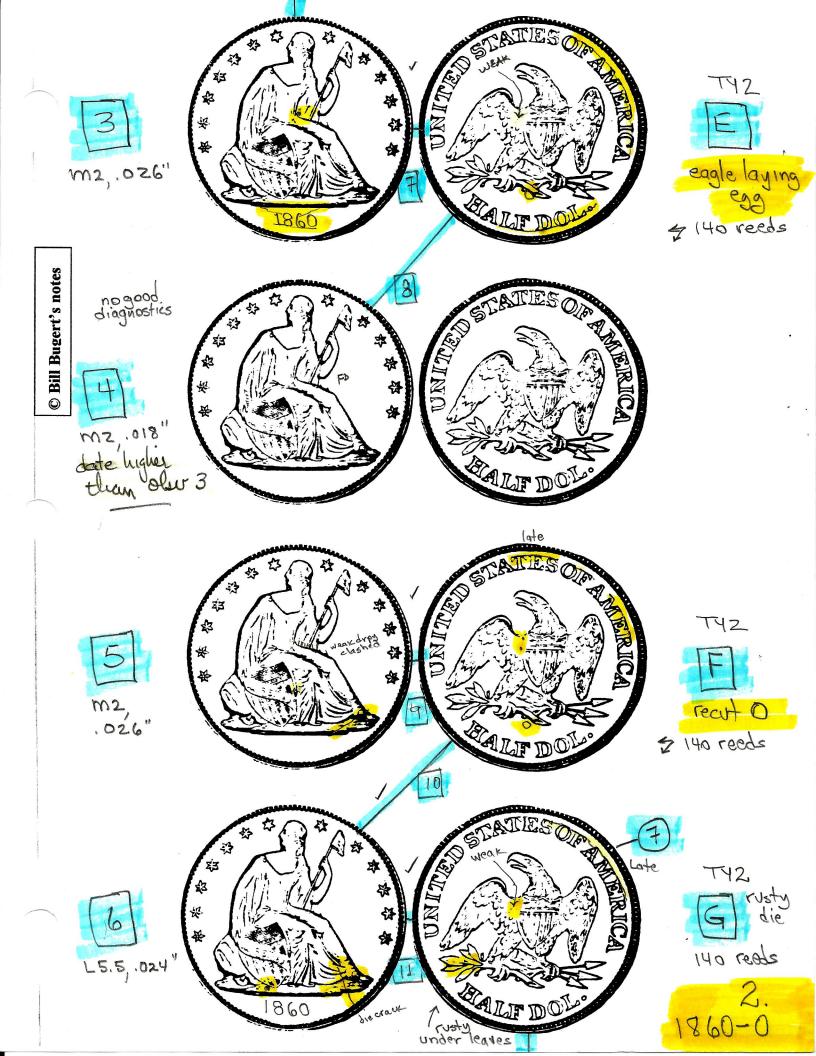














140 reeds



3.

